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GENEVA TALKS TO FOCUS ON INF, SPACE ARMS

LD051248 Moscow TASS in English 1231 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Geneva May 5 TASS -- The eighth round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments began here today with a meeting between Yuliy Vorontsov, head of the USSR delegation, and Max Kampelman, top negotiator for the U.S. side.

The Soviet side is known to have tabled during the negotiations a draft treaty on eliminating the medium-range missiles of the USSR and the United States in Europe. The Soviet draft is a practical embodiment of the formula for the solution of the problem of the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) agreed upon at the Reykjavik meeting and reiterated by both sides during the talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Moscow. There exists a real possibility to work out a joint draft treaty on INF before the end of the current year. The Soviet side is prepared for this work.

During the round the sides will also continue the discussion of issues pertaining to preventing the spread of the arms race into space and drastic reductions in strategic offensive armaments.

CHERNYSHEV ON U.S. DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS

LD051536 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 5 May 87

["Invitation to 'Nuclear and Star Games'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan said in his statement ahead of the 8th round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms that he had directed the U.S. delegation in Geneva to intensify its efforts there and that the United States was "well prepared for hard bargaining" and "resolved to do our part".

However, the results of the preparatory work, as detailed by the President, can hardly be seen positively.

One is apt to note first of all that in Washington they are changing the objective order of priorities.

It is known to the whole world that just millimeters are left to cover to reach an agreement on medium-range and theater missiles. It is likewise known that the ball in this game is in the U.S. court.

Yet, the President in his statement pushed this problem, which is ripe for a mutually acceptable solution, to the background, while proclaiming a 50 percent cut in strategic offensive arms to be the "number one" objective.

The White House chief also asserted that the relevant draft treaty the American delegation was going to table in Geneva would reflect the agreements reached in Reykjavik.

But the understanding in Reykjavik was for destroying strategic offensive arms completely over ten years, with a 50 percent cut in their armories within the first five years of this period.

In Washington now they have "forgotten" both about eliminating these weapons completely and about the ten- and five-year periods.

The only thing remaining is a 50 percent cut, and even that is to be effected over seven rather than five years.

Moreover, the U.S. side has also returned -- contrary to the Reykjavik understanding -- to its demand for "sublimits" on forces making up the strategic "triad", which is aimed at wrecking the structure of the Soviet strategic forces and winning advantages for the United States at the negotiating table.

The "new" U.S. position on space arms looks even less attractive.

In Reykjavik the U.S President agreed to an accord not to withdraw from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty for ten years, that is the period for scrapping strategic offensive arms completely.

Now he is talking about merely seven years through 1994 and about destroying half rather than all strategic offensive arms. After 1994, according to his proposal, either side could deploy space arms.

What is being offered to the Soviet Union thus is burying the ABM Treaty, even if with a seven-year respite, while preserving half of the current arsenals of strategic offensive arms.

What would this proposal lead to, if accepted?

The answer was given by the U.S. President himself when he said in March 1983 that if defensive space weapons were coupled with offensive systems, they could be seen as a factor for aggressive policy.

The U.S. proposals can only be described as an invitation to "nuclear and star games" and to involvement in working out the rules for "Star Wars".

So far as the medium-range missile is concerned, Washington, instead of giving a constructive response to the latest Soviet initiatives in the field, is talking about the alleged "insufficiency" of the Soviet proposals on verification, although the Soviet draft agreement offers a solid basis for hammering out the final text of a Soviet-U.S. treaty at the talks.

One is also surprised that the President has not been informed -- or such at least is the impression -- of the substance of the Soviet proposal which provides for destroying the U.S.-controlled nuclear warheads for Pershing-1A missiles belonging to West Germany.

Although the matter at issue is U.S. warheads rather than West German missiles and Launchers, the White House chief fumed about what he alleged were "Soviet efforts to include the missiles of countries other than the United States and the USSR.

The Soviet Union -- and this is known by the entire world -- has taken a whole number of constructive steps and cleared many logjams from the path to agreements in Geneva.

Washington, by contrast, has demonstrated the lack of even a basic desire to consolidate the gains already made on the path to mutually acceptable solutions based on the principle of equality and equal security.

REAGAN 'ATTACKS' CONGRESS OVER STAR WARS FUNDING

OW060031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1135 GMT 5 May 87

[From the "World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] The White House has released a statement by President Reagan saying he has instructed the U.S. representatives at the strategic arms talks to intensify efforts toward reaching an agreement on reducing these arms. Washington will soon submit a draft treaty envisaging, in particular, that the United States and the Soviet Union will continue to be bound by the ABM Treaty only until the end of 1994.

Reagan's statement proposes to reduce strategic offensive arms by 50 percent within 7 years after a corresponding agreement comes into force. It is also envisaged that work on development [sozdaniye] and deployment of SDI systems will continue parallel to the process of concluding an agreement, and after 1994 the United States and the Soviet Union will, I quote, be able to deploy defensive systems of their choice if no other mutual agreement is reached. In fact, it means that the United States, while conducting talks on reducing strategic arms required for neutralization of the Star Wars program, will at the same time be preparing at full speed for deployment of so-called space defense systems.

As for reaching an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe, the White House statement again raises questions of inspection and verification although the Soviet Union has already made detailed proposals in this area. Reagan's proposal does not answer these questions concretely and it categorically denies the need to eliminate operational and tactical missiles.

In his statement, Reagan attacks the U.S. Congress for its widely prevalent modd favoring a reduction in military expenditures next fiscal year, primarily for the SDI program. The President indicated that he would veto any draft iaw envisaging such reductions.

U.S. PLANS TO DEVELOP SHORTER-RANGE MISSILE NOTED

LD060759 Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS -- The U.S. Department of Defense is opposed to the Soviet proposal for a simultaneous elimination of Soviet and American shorter range missiles from Europe, the American television network CBS reported Tuesday.

According to CBS, the Pentagon is considering plans for the development and deployment in European countries of a new shorter-range missile with a range of about 500 kilometers. To add substance to its plans for a new weapons the Pentagon refers to the need for extending protection to U.S. NATO allies, CBS noted.

RISK REDUCTION CENTERS 'FIRST STEP' IN ARMS TALKS

LD052034 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 May 87

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] In Geneva the Soviet-U.S. talks on establishing centers to reduce the nuclear threat have ended.

A joint draft agreement between the USSR and the United States and two protocols to it have been prepared. TASS reports the documents will be submitted for consideration by the governments of the two countries. Here is a latest-news commentary by Viktor Levin:

[Levin] There was talk of such centers as long ago as the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva 1985. There CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan agreed that experts would hold talks. Here is the result: According to the information available, a reliable link should exist between the centers for the reduction of the nuclear threat, similar to the hot line between Moscow and Washington. The task lies in ensuring that information about any phenomena that might provoke a nuclear incident flows round the clock.

What is it, in my view, that attracts the most attention? The very fact that agreement was reached. Of course one could say that, compared, for instance, with steps to limit nuclear weapons, accords on establishing centers to reduce the nuclear threat seem of secondary importance. It is beyond dispute that here is no better way to remove the nuclear threat, and do so radically and reliably, than to eliminate nuclear weapons. But as long as they remain, every step toward reducing the danger of an involuntary outbreak of nuclear conflict is important and significant. Furthermore, the political significance of the conclusion of talks between Soviet and U.S. experts is obvious. After all, the agreement prepared is the first tangible step taken jointly by our country and the present U.S. Administration, and this fact cannot help but inspire confidence.

I would very much like to conclude this commentary on precisely this note, but today a report came from Washington of a speech by President Reagan again calling into question the Reykjavik accords on strategic arms and the antimissile defense treaty, and questions of verification are again brought up with regard to the elimination of medium-range missiles, questions one might think were fully removed by the Soviet proposals. This statement does not so much fail to inspire optimism as reduce the already modest stockpile of it.

So difficulties remain in the development of relations with the United States. There are many dark clouds on the horizon one can not help seeing. But nor can one help noticing the ray of light that began to shine as a result of the Soviet-U.S. talks on establishing centers to reduce the nuclear threat.

USSR 'READY' TO GUARANTEE NUCLEAR-FREE CORRIDOR

LD051704 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- Major General Yuriy Levedev, department deputy head of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, called as important and timely the intiative by the Governments of the GDR and Czechoslovakia on establishing a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe. Replying to a question by a TASS analyst, he said that today Europe was a place of the greatest concentration of armaments and a focal point of nuclear confrontation between the two military alliances. The obtaining situation here is fraught with a nuclear conflict due to the USA's desire to turn the region into a forward theatre of operations, far enough from its own territory. It is here, in Western Europe, that the United States set up over 150 depots, accumulating there over 7,000 nuclear warheads, both for its own delivery vehicles and for delivery vehicles of its NATO partners.

At the same time Europe can probably make the most effective first step along the way of saving mankind from the nuclear threat.

This chance is extended by the Soviet proposals aimed at freeing Europe from medium-range nuclear missiles and shorter-range missiles with a range of between 500 and 1,000 kilometres. The question of tactical nuclear systems in Europe could also be resolved at negotiations on reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe -- from the Atlantic to the Urals, proposed by the Warsaw Treaty member states in Budapest.

Proposals on establishing zones free from nuclear weapons in Europe would undoubtedly contribute to realizing this programme. The establishment of such a zone is necessary, above all, in central Europe.

It will be recalled that the Soviet Union immediately backed the initiative put forth by Sweden in December 1982 on establishing a 300-kilometre-wide zone, free from theatre of operations nuclear weapons (150 kilometres on each side of the line of contact between the Warsaw Treaty countries and NATO). For the purpose of reducing the nuclear danger the USSR proposed that the zone be expanded to 500-600 kilometres (250-300 kilometres to the west and the east from the line of contact).

However, the USA and NATO took a negative stand on the question.

Calling on the FRG Government for conducting talks to establish a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe, the Governments of the GDR and Czechoslovakia proposed that its width be equal to 300 kilometres.

At first the corridor could be extended to some 150 kilometres on each side of the borderline so as to extend it, at the next stage, to the size of the central European nuclear-free zone within geographical limits determined by the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. All nuclear arms systems are to be removed from the corridor on each side of the delimiation line between the alliances in Central Europe.

Such a corridor would be a specific contribution of relevant states to liquidating nuclear weapons in Europe and, thereby, a practical support for the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva. All nuclear weapons, including nuclear mines, theatre of operations and tactical missiles, atomic artillery, carrier planes of strike tactical aviation and anti-aircraft missile nuclear-capable systems would be subject to withdrawal from the corridor.

Comprehending the need for consolidating security in Europe, the Soviet Union is ready, on a mutual basis, to withdraw Soviet nuclear weapons from such a corridor and guarantee a nuclear-free status of such a zone. Now it is up to the NATO countries to respond, above all to the FRG to which the proposal by the GDR and Czechoslovakia is directly addressed.

RETIRED PACT, NATO GENERALS MEET IN VIENNA

LD041952 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1548 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] Vienna, 4 May (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Anatoliy Tyupayev reports:

The issues of putting an end to the arms race on earth and in space and eliminating the threat of a nuclear war are among those on the agenda of a meeting of retired generals and admirals of Warsaw Pact and NATO member states that has opened here. The Soviet Union is represented by a delegation of the public group attached to the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, Soviet Generals and Admirals for Peace and Disarmament.

In his address, the head of the Soviet delegation, Colonel General of Aviation A.N. Ponomarev, retired, spoke about the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union directed toward eliminating the nuclear danger hanging over mankind. He underlined that we have to make a worthy contribution to the cause of real disarmament.

Major General M. Van Meyenfeldt, retired, (Netherlands) appealed to the participants to speak against militarizing space and creating new types of nuclear weapons. It is necessary, he said, for leaders of Western countries to evaluate correctly the USSR's initiatives. Soviet proposals are an expression of new thinking, not only in politics but also in the military sphere. The policy of confrontation has to be replaced by policy-based accords and agreements in all spheres -- political, economic, and military.

Discuss Disarmament

LD051245 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0925 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Vienna 5 May (TASS) -- Former top officers from the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries continue their meeting here today. Retired generals and admirals from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia, as well as from Great Britain, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal are taking part in this international forum, which now bears a traditional stamp and is being held in the Austrian capital for the fourth time. They are discussing issues connected with the ever greater deployment of the efforts of peace champions from various countries being made now to protect mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation. The speeches of the meeting's participants note the need to make a fitting contribution to the worldwide campaign for disarmament now being conducted by the international public.

ZHUKOV OPPOSES W. EUROPE MILITARY INTEGRATION

PM011831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 First Edition p 4

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "Security or Danger?" -- passages in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Recently there has been wide discussion abroad of plans to deepen the integration of the West European states belonging to various associations established in the postwar years. Prospects for further developing economic cooperation are being examined. The question is raised again and again of giving the West European community political functions. All these problems, of course, belong to the realm of the sovereign rights of the West European states, and it is up to them to resolve them.

However, the military-political aspect of these discussions attracts attention. As Britain's THE TIMES wrote on 26 March, the idea of West European military cooperation is "now once more in fashion."

These plans cannot fail to attract attention in all European states, since it is a question of measures that one way or another affect universal security. The question inevitably arises: What gave rise to this "fashion," as THE TIMES put it? And why has it emerged just now, when the new Soviet initiatives aimed at radically reducing weapons open up a real possibility of lessening military tension in Europe and developing all-European peaceful cooperation?

The authors of the plans for the military integration of the West European states usually reply to these questions like this: "We would like to strengthen the independence of West Europe, which would rely on its own military might." Others add: "We are disturbed by the changeable and unpredictable policy of our senior NATO partner, the United States."

This anxiety is understandable. I recall the first person to voice this publicly was then French President General de Gaulle 21 years ago, when he announced his country's withdrawal from NATO's military structure and demanded the immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from French territory. This is what he said on that occasion at his news conference 21 February 1966:

"At the same time as the prospects of world war are being dispersed from Europe, other conflicts are arising in which the United States is involving itself in other parts of the globe (de Gaulle mentioned in particular the U.S. war in Vietnam -- Yuriy Zhukov). These conflicts -- by virtue of the notorious concept of escalation -- could become so large in scale that they could prove capable of resulting in world war, and in that case Europe, whose strategy within the NATO framework in strategy, would be automatically involved in war even if it did not want it. The same would be true of France."

Since these words were spoken the unpredictability of Washington's policy has not only not decreased, but on the contrary has been stepped up. Especially as the present U.S. Administration frequently permits itself to treat its allies in cowboy fashion, as they say, demanding unreserved emulation of its positions.

Former FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt spoke out very plainly on this score: "They treat us Europeans as vassals, and we let them. Perhaps we have behaved like vassals for too long."

One way or another many West European figures have been saying recently that they would like to provide an independent defense for their own group of countries -- for instance within the framework of the Western European Union, to which the United States does not belong.

All this discussion has its own intrinsic point of course. But the question that cannot fail to interest us is: defense from whom? Yesterday bourgeois progaganda in reply to this question answered without constraint: from the Soviet Union of course, which is about to attack the West! But now that the truth about the Soviet peace initiatives is penetrating the consciousness of the public, the myth about the Soviet threat is ceasing to have an effect -- at least partially.

"The Europeans -- albeit little by little and cautiously -- are beginning to regard the Soviet Union more and more sympathyetically," the U.S. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR anxiously wrote recently. "Weighty voices are beginning to be heard in Europe calling for broader economic and political cooperation with Moscow."

So what lies at the bottom of the efforts aimed at West European military integration? Some people of the older generation add: Is it not a question of attempts to revive the plans to create a pro-U.S. "European defense community," which suffered defeat more than 30 years ago?

I well remember how all this started back in October 1950. I was working in Paris at the time as a PRAVDA correspondent and was attending a news conference when suddenly the notorious "Pleven plan" -- Pleven was French defense minister at the time -- was announced. It was in practice a question of how to include the Army of the quite newly reconstructed FRG in military plans of an anti-Soviet nature.

Only 5 years had elapsed since the war and recollections of the somber years of the occupation were still fresh in French people's memories. For this reason Plenven swore that it would be a case of merely "interspersing" West German battalions -- no more than that! -- among the French divisions.

Who above all was interested in implementing this plan to create a "European defense community"? The answer to ths question was clear: the United States! It was the United States that wanted the remilitarization of the FRG.

To Washington's very great chagrin and exasperation, the "Pleven plan" collapsed when on 30 August 1954 after stormy debates the French National Assembly refused to ratify the treaty on the creation of the "European defense community" signed 27 May 1952.

But here, as always in such cases, the U.S. Administration exerted profound pressure on the allies. And so just 1 and 1/2 months later, on 23 October 1954, a whole package of agreements was signed opening the way to the arming of the FRG and its direct inclusion in NATO.

These accords have gone down in postwar history as the Paris agreements, which came into force 5 May 1955.

Of course, for some time now the West European countries -- which have become stronger over the past decades -- are no longer so dependent on their senior NATO partner as was the case in the fifties. For this reason, it seems to me that it would be stretching the point to allege that it is currently simply a question of resurrecting the stillborn "West European defense community." Despite everything this common sense demands an investigation into the essence of the current idea of military integration among the West European states.

We are told that the West European "Defense System" is conceived as a "third force" standing between the United States and the USSR and would be a kind of guarantee of peace. But if matters are like this, why do the authors of this idea add every time: The new system will be NATO's European bastion?

No intelligible reply to this question can be heard. For this reason we must not be surprised that the plans to create an "autonomous West European defense system" are coming up against opposition in a number of member countries of the West European economic community and NATO.

It is impossible to fail to see, however, that the authors of these plans to not intend to abandon them. In reply to the objections of those countries that are distrustful of the plans, the idea is being put forward with increasing frequency of a united West European military-political system "at two speeds" -- first, they say, the armed forces of those states that agree must be united (primarily France and the FRG), and then others will join this union.

It is also not difficult to note that now -- as in the fifties -- special attention is being paid to the FRG's role as the "hard core" in the planned West European military-political system. Whereas before it was talked of merely as provider of infantry, the question of its access to nuclear weapons is now essentially being openly raised.

I have before me an editorial in the French magazine FIGARO MAGAZINE entitled very bluntly: /There can be no Europe without a Franco-German Bomb."/ And the article says in black and white:

/"The Germans must have control (!) of nuclear weapons in the same way as us, together with us./ Then the France-Germany-Britain axis will be turned into a powerful link of the free world instead of being its 'soft underbelly'." [podbryushye]

The Paris magazine L'EXPRESS raises this question with the same directness. The issue we have just received, dated 24 April, contains a whole section of articles arguing the need to deploy French nuclear missiles in the FRG and accelerate the unification of the French Armed Forces and the West German Bundeswehr even to the point of creating "mixed units."

The newspaper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS joined in: on 20 April it published a series of articles arguing that now "it is necessary to strengthen the Franco-West German column of defense" on the Elbe border by advancing French missiles onto FRG territory.

Such discussions naturally arouse suspicion. Expecially as at the same time decisions are being made about a new and moreover considerable increase in military spending by candidates for the projected "West European military club," including spending on stepping up nuclear weapons and creating chemical weapons.

But the most important thing is how all these plans and the practical actions being implemented at the same time, which entail the further stockpiling on the European Contintent of weapons of mass destruction, accord with the well-known proposal to eliminate whole classes of nuclear missiles and with the idea of a peaceful nuclear-free Europe.

In the opinion of many competent figures, the resolution of the question of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe on the basis of the Soviet proposals is closer now than ever before. In this connection the possibilities for peaceful all-European cooperation, which would be facilitated if our common European home was freed of nuclear weapons, can be seen increasingly distinctly. So much the less logically justified is the campaign mounted in the West in favor of West European military integration, which runs counter to the new prospects opening up before the Europeans.

An overwhelming majority of people both in West and East Europe favor not an intensification but a lessening of military tension, not an increase but a reduction in arms, and not a deepening of the division of Europe but the building of bridges between its Western and Eastern parts. So it is worth going against the current, risking an even more violent aggravation of international relations?

SUSLOV VISITS AUSTRIA TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS

LD060947 Moscow TASS in English 0834 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Vienna May 6 TASS -- Franz Vranitzky, federal chancellor of the republic of Austria, received Tuesday Soviet Envoy Vladimir Suslov, an ambassador at large, and Gennadiy Shikin, ambassador of the USSR to Austria.

During the talk the chancellor was informed about the new Soviet proposals at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments.

ARMY PAPER ON CLAIMS OF 'MINIATURE ATOM BOMBS'

PM050951 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 87 First Edition p 3

["Rejoinder" by Senior Lieutenant M. Zheglov "On 'Suitcase' Vulnerability"]

[Text] The Pentagon's vocabulary includes the "window of vulnerability" concept. It is used whenever the U.S. military-industrial complex, on the pretext that it "lags behind the USSR," tries to obtain billions of dollars more to escalate the arms race. That is what has happened with various types of missiles, warships, tanks, and so forth.

The United States recently discovered one more "window" -- the suitcase window. Congressman Stephen Neal lays claim to its authorship. This gentleman has decided to notify the military department of a new type of weapon in which the United States has lagged hopelessly behind the USSR. Neal has sent two personal messages to Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, asking for an assessment of the degree of danger presented to the United States by "the powerful miniature atom bombs secretly brought onto U.S. territory by Soviet agents," because in Neal's opinion, the Soviet Union's only dream is to flood the United States with nuclear devices of enormous yield but small enough to be contained in a suitcase.

The Pentagon has treated Neal's messages very seriously. Weinberger has personally answered the congressman, launching into lengthy explanations about "the Soviets' possible seizure" of U.S. territory with the aid of the "nuclear suitcases." True, he did cast doubt on the probability of the Soviet Union carrying out an operation involving the mass use of miniature nuclear devices, but he did not rule out the possibility of "individual acts of sabotage."

So it looks as though a new initiative is being born within the depths of Congress -- the "antisuitcase initiative." After all, practice shows that across the ocean any means are good to fuel anti-Soviet hysteria.

GERASIMOV FOREIGN MINISTRY NEWS CONFERENCE 5 MAY

Disarmament Talks

LD060020 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 5 May 87

[Excerpts] A briefing for Soviet and foreign newsmen has taken place at the press center of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. It was conducted by Gennadiy Gerasimov, in charge of a Foreign Ministry department. Details in this report:

Gennadiy Gerasimov said that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev might visit Romania and the German Democratic Republic along with some other nations, this month.

The chief Soviet delegate, Yuriy Nazarkin, said at the briefing that through the fault of the United States no concrete results have been achieved on the overwhelming majority of the questions discussed at the Geneva conference on disarmament. The agenda of the conference included a ban on nuclear weapons tests and (?the) work to avert nuclear war and get rid of radiological and chemical weapons. Nazarkin said there'd been signs of progress on the issue of chemical weapons but there are still obstacles in the way of a convention on the subject, which is unfortunate. Nazarkin singled out in the first place some forms of on-site inspection. He said the USSR believes the problem could get solution on the British proposal.

At the briefing, Gennadiy Gerasimov accused President Reagan of having distorted what the founder of the Soviet Communist Party and Government, Lenin, had to say about Soviet Russia's attitude to Mexico. Gerasimov said he couldn't imagine the United States President himself ever reading the works to which he had referred, but his assistants, he added, should have had professional training sufficient for them to read in the original what they have to report to the President instead of (?palming) off frauds. [passage omitted]

Asked about the Soviet Union's reaction to a Soviet diplomat leaving New Zealand at the request of its government, Gerasimov pointed out the move had benefitted all who object to better Soviet-New Zealand relations. There's every reason to expect the Soviet Union, he said, to carry out a counteraction. At the same time, Gerasimov pointed out that the Soviet Union favored good and friendly relations with New Zealand.

U.S. Aid to Somalia

LD051306 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- The decision of the United States to increase military aid to Somalia has been taken at a time when Ethiopia and Somalia are being engaged in difficult talks with a view to finding ways to normalize their relations and improve the situation in the Horn of Africa, Gennadiy Gerasimov, the head of the Information Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov told a briefing for newsmen that the United States, acting within the framework of its efforts to broaden military presence in the Indian Ocean, was building new military facilities on the territory of Somalia and Kenya and planning to complete the modernization of older military bases in the region by 1989.

14 billion dollars had been allocated for these purposes, he said.

According to the Soviet assessment, said the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, the American Administration's steps instigated mistrust in the Horn of Africa and created a greater potential threat of armed confrontation. They contradicted the spirit of Soviet-American talks on regional problems, Gerasimov observed.

FRG, West Berlin

LD051432 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- One gets the impression that some people in Bonn find it impossible to reconcile themselves with the main, key provision of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, stated Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, at a briefing held for jounalists here today. West Berlin is as independent political entity and its international and legal status is governed by the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin dated 3 September 1971. This document states, in particular, that the Western sectors of the city "continue not to form part of the Federal Republic, nor will they be governed by the Republic in the future."

However, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted, attempts are from time to time made in Bonn to test the strength of this agreement and to bypass those paragraphs that confirm the status of West Berlin as a city that does not belong to the FRG and is not subordinate to it. This is precisely how the USSR sees the participation of official FRG representatives in the festivities that have started in West Berlin to mark the city's 750th anniversary. The speeches delivered by Diepgen, the ruling mayor of West Berlin, and Federal Chancellor Kohl repeated the phrases about a united Berlin and about the area [Zemlya] of Berlin belonging to the FRG. Crude attacks agains the GDR were also allowed. At the same time, the Kohl and Diepgen speeches were devoid of the themes of peace and of West Berlin's good-neighbor relations with the socialist countries. Nor was anything said about the city's great responsibility in the present struggle for peace and disarmament, especially if one takes into account the fact that it is precisely from Berlin, in this century, that world wars that had claimed millions of lives started, emphasized G. Gerasimov.

Brazinskas Extradition

LD051342 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- The Soviet Union has repeatedly approached the American side about the extradition of criminals -- father and son Brazinskas, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

In October 1970, he recalled, the Brazinskases hijacked a plane on a domestic flight, killed an air-hostess and wounded other crew members. The plane landed in Turkey from where the criminals left for the United States where they still remain.

The American side, the observed, made no replies to the USSR's extradition requests, although the Soviet Union raised the subject during the Soviet-American consultations on issues of combating terrorism held in Washington during the recent visit to Moscow by American congressmen. The absence of any reaction could not but create the impression that American officials would like to forget the case, to bury it for American public opinion which keenly responded to problems of terrorism.

Washington's stance revealed double standards in American policy, on the one hand, Washington, is supposedly against terrorism, while on the other hand, it is harbouring the criminals who had murdered a Soviet citizen, the Soviet spokesman said.

TOLKUNOV DEPARTS NICARAGUA AFTER IPU CONFERENCE

LD051310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] A USSR parliamentary group delegation has left Managua for home. It participated in the 77th conference of the Interparliamentary Union. The delegation is headed by Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the USSR parliamentary group.

WEST EUROPEAN UNION ASSEMBLY SESSION HELD

LD281140 Moscow TASS in English 1113 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] Luxembourg April 28 TASS -- An extraordinary session of the Assembly of the Western European Union is underway here. Parliamentarians of seven countries -- Britain, Italy, France, FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are discussing East-West relations, prospects of disarmament in Europe in the light of the new Soviet initiatives. A number of participants in the meeting called upon the Ministerial Council of the Western European Union to elaborate the common stand of the "Seven" towards the Soviet proposal aimed at elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles in Europe.

Deputy head of government and foreign minister of Luxembourg Jacques Poos will speak to the parliamentarians today. Jacques Poos is now chairman of the Council of the Western European Union.

The foreign and defence ministers of the countries, members of the Western European Union, have also got down to discussions here today.

PRAVDA ANNIVERSARY MEETING OPENS 3 MAY

LD032138 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 3 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 3 TASS -- A meeting of communist and democratic press editors opened in Moscow today to mark 75 years since the publication of the first issue of the newspaper PRAVDA.

The date is observed May 5 and is known in the Soviet Union as press day.

Editors of the publications of 100 parties are attending the meeting. The magazine WORLD MARXIST REVIEW and the AL-NAHJ [name as received], the magazine published by the communist and workers' parties of Arab countries, also sent their representative.

BRIEFS

LENIN PEACE PRIZES -- Moscow April 30 TASS -- Lenin peace prizes for 1985-1986 for outstanding services in the struggle for the preservation of peace have been awarded to Julius Nyerere, politician and statesman of the United Republic of Tanzania, Herbert Mies, politician of West Germany, Petur Tanchev, politician and statesman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Dorothy Hodgkin, scientist and public figure of Britain, and Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, statesman of the Republic of Nicaragua. A decision to this effect has been taken by the Committee for the International Lenin Peace Prizes which is made up of prominent public figures of India, France, Vietnam, Finland, Cuba, Britain, Madagascar, Greece, Poland and the USSR. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0903 GMT 30 Apr 87 LD]

HOUSE BEGINS REVIEW OF 1988 DEFENSE BUDGET

LD052030 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Washington May 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko writes:

It is time to give up nuclear insanity and to start advancing toward durable peace. By this statement Congressman Ronald Dellums (Democrat-California) summed up the first day of the discussion by the full composition of the U.S. House of Representatives of the administration's request for military spending for the 1988 fiscal year. The discussion of this question was started on Monday. The White House asked for the appropriation of 312 billion dollars for military expenditures, including 5.7 billion dollars for the further work on the "Star Wars" systems.

But these demands were cut somewhat during the preliminary discussion of the draft military budget by a number of committees of the House of Representatives. On the whole the appropriations for the military expenditures are now to amount to 289 billion dollars, including 3.6 billion dollars for SDI. The White House and the Pentagon, however, have been annoyed even at this timid "encroachment" of the "sacred cow" of militarism by most members of the House of Representatives who are concerned over the growing danger of the arms race and the chronic deficit of the federal budget stemming from it.

The White House and the Pentagon are ever more annoyed also at the fact that amendments to the draft military budget were also advanced in the House of Representatives. They envisage the United States' return to the observance of the Salt-2 treaty, ban on the appropriations for nuclear tests with a yield of over one kiloton, the preservation of the ban on the tests of anti-satellite weapons, the introduction of a ban on the tests of kinetic weapons in SDI framework, the steady observance of the spirit and the letter of the ABM Treaty. The White House and the Pentagon attack the supporters of those amendments, demagogically accuse them of undermining the United States security, of the lack of patriotism and even of critically weakening the United States positions at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms.

President Reagan said on Monday that even if the House of Representatives and the Senate vote in favour of the draft military budget containing such amendments, he will veto it. The votes of no less than two thirds of the members of both congressional chambers are needed to abrogate the presidential veto on a legislative act. Such was recently the case with the draft on transport and road building which the President had initially vetoed. They in the White House remember well such an outcome of the voting and they are clearly concerned lest this should be repeated with regard to the draft military budget.

The voting in the House of Representatives on concrete articles and amendments to the draft military budget is to start on Wednesday. After the endorsement of the draft budget by the House of Representatives and the Senate and later by the Senate-House conference committee, it will be referred to the President for signing. Even though the White House is now busy in connection with the "Iran-contras" affair, whose full scale public investigation was started by the select congressional committees on Tuesday, it intends to press on the legislators so that all its requirements for the military spending be met.

SECORD TESTIMONY ON ARMS SHIPMENTS NOTED

LD060547 Moscow TASS in English 0534 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS -- High-ranking U.S. Administration officials knew of a covert operation to supply Nicaraguan contras with arms and other equipment, retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Secord admitted at hearings in the congressional commissions investigating the Iran-contras affair, which opened Tuesday.

He was the first of about 50 other witnesses expected to testify on different aspects of the resounding political scandal over the Reagan administration's secret shipments of arms to Iran and the diversion of part of the proceeds to the contras.

Secord said the Reagan administration "knew of my conduct and approved it".

Secord was involved in the operation, which was being conducted despite a congressional ban on military aid to the contras, by Lt. Col. Oliver North who was then a staff member of the National Security Council.

The retired general described several meetings with then-C.I.A. Director William Casey who, he said, had known of the contra supply effort and "was in favor of it".

The funds for the operation came both from "private sources" and from a Swiss bank account to which the proceeds of the clandestine arms sales to Iran were remitted.

Secord admitted that monthly "allowances" to Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary chieftains had also been paid out of those funds.

REAGAN DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF NORTH'S ACTIVITIES

LD060506 Moscow TASS in English 0433 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan Tuesday denied again any knowledge of an effort conducted by Lt-Col Oliver North and coordinated from the White House to raise funds for military aid to Nicaraguan Contras.

In a brief exchange with newsmen, the President asserted: "There was no illegal fund -- as far as I know at this point". He added, however, that "there were people that were contributing and, privately and in groups, giving money to aid the contras".

But he personally had no idea of how the money had been used, Reagan claimed.

Asked what he expected of just-started open Irangate congressional hearings jointly held by two special commissions, the White House chief said he was hopeful he was "finally going to hear some of the things" he was still waiting to learn about.

His assistant for press relations said on the same day that the White House had not yet taken an official position on the possibility of the President being summoned to testify before the commissions investigating the Iran-contras scandal.

U.S. SAYS TALKS WITH NICARAGUA MUST INCLUDE CONTRAS

LD051123 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 5 May 87

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Kristantin Patsyuk]

[Text] Western news agencies report that a representative of the U.S. State Department has made a statement about his country being in favor of resuming talks with the Nicaraguan Government. Judging by what the State Department representative went on to say, however, these talks, as in the past, are being made conditional upon Nicaragua beginning a dialogue in which the counterrevolutionary Somoza forces will take part. This stance confirms the view that the United States is trying to impose upon Nicaragua talks with bandits who enjoy no support within the country. It is only support from outside, from the United States, that saves them from utter defeat.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON REAGAN SPEECH BACKING CONTRAS

PM051431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 87 Second Edition p 4

["Rejoinder" by T. Anatolyev: "Statue or Pillory?"]

[Text] I really would not like to compare the U.S. Statue of Liberty to a pillory, but if such an association arises it is President Reagan who is to be "thanked" for it.

Today Congress starts its 3-month hearings on the "Iran-contra" affair. According to the U.S. press itself, it far surpasses the notorious Watergate scandal, which became a symbol of shame for the Nixon administration, which engaged in criminal machinations.

But Nixon could not even have dreamed of the scale of the affair in which the White House incumbent and his entourage are now embroiled. Senator D. Inouye, spokesman for the Senate special commission to investigate the scandal, stressed in referring to the "Iran-contra" deal that "Reagan was informed not only of the events of each specific day but of the problem as a whole. He undoubtedly held supreme leadership in his hands. The President knew the money from the sale of weapons was being collected to arm the contras at a time when Congress had banned military aid to the insurgents."

Now, on the eve of the public hearings into the entire scandal, President Reagan decided to make a major speech, beside the Statue of Liberty, no less. Why? Perhaps the President's conscience was acting up? In the shadow of the symbol of U.S. democracy he had decided, so to speak, to repent before his countrymen for having blatantly violated together with his aides the principles of that democracy and discredited the very word "freedom" in describing the Somozista cutthroats as "freedom fighters" and giving all-around aid to these bandits.

Alas, it was quite the opposite. Contrary to logic and common sense, the President decided to start, as the newspapers put it, a "new battle with Congress" for the allocation of funds to the Nicaraguan contras -- this time for $105 million in fiscal 1988.

"While I am President," he stated in his speech to participants in the annual Newspaper Publishers Association Convention, "I do not intend to end our support...to those fighting for Nicaragua's freedom."

Reagan has probably never before scared his audience so much with the "Soviet" and "communist threat" as he did this time at the Statue of Liberty. From his speech, as if in a theater of the absurd, it followed that it is not the United States but little Nicaragua that is the "aggressor state" threatening the "security and stability of the Western Hemisphere."

It is not the United States...but the Soviet Union that is waging an undeclared war in Nicaragua. Moreover, according to the President, those terrible "Soviets" with Nicaragua's help will try to swallow the Western Hemisphere and the United States with it, if not today then tomorrow.

The President's statements were a mishmash of everything -- diehard conservatism, blatant slander, and basic political illiteracy. Just one example: "Let us not deceive ourselves about the ultimate aim of the Soviets' billion-dollar war (?!) in Nicaragua," R. Reagan stated. "It is said Lenin said that the way to America lies through Mexico(?!). I do not intend to bequeath such a crisis to the next U.S. president."

This is not the first time that R. Reagan has ascribed to V.I. Lenin things he did not say and could not have said. It is also not the first time that the U.S. President has been at odds with history -- past and present. But it is history that will allocate the appropriate place to R. Reagan and decide what he will "bequeath to the next president."

For the time being we must say that R. Reagan went to the Statue of Liberty and was pilloried.

Moscow TV Comments

OW060155 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2250 GMT 5 May 87

[Igor Goranskiy commentary from the Novosti newscast]

[Text] A special U.S. congressional commission began a public inquiry into the Irangate affair. Here is our commentary:

[Goranskiy] Hello, Comrades. As you know, Irangate is equated with a severe political scandal related to secret deliveries of U.S. arms to Iran. Profits from this illegal machination were channeled to the Nicaraguan contras. This was taking place at a time when Congress was speaking out against providing military aid to the Samoza bands.

Not only a great many workers in the Washington administration were involved in Irangate, but also the President himself, who knew all the details and the final destination of the deal. A special Senate commission reached this conclusion after a thorough investigation of this scandalous matter.

It would appear that, faced with the threat of official disclosure, the U.S. President could somewhat tone down his encouragement of the Nicaraguan contras. However, as the U.S. press notes, Reagan is intending to begin a new battle with Congress to give $105 million to the counterrevolutionaries so they can continue their war against the Sandinist Republic.

Contrary to sanity and against the elementary norms of international law, the Washington administration is continuing to follow its aggressive policies against the freedom-loving Nicaraguan people.

PRC SEEKING IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH EAST EUROPE

OW050721 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2300 GMT 4 May 87

[Viktor Konnov commentary from the Novosti newscast]

[Text] Todor Zhivkov is visiting China at the invitation of Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and PRC President Li Xiannian.

Comrade Zhivkov's current visit to China and Zhao Ziyang's forthcoming June visit to Bulgaria mark the first such exchange of visits between the highest leaders of the two countries. It signifies that political relations between China and Bulgaria have entered a new stage of development. The same can be said about PRC relations with other European socialist countries.

China traditionally supports stable relations of friendship and cooperation with Romania and Yugoslavia. Chinese-Albanian relations are being gradually restored. Relations with Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, and the CSSR on the other hand are placed, as a rule, under a separate heading in China. In fact, these countries have been labeled as the five countries of Eastern Europe.

Recently, with increasing frequency, one hears talk of a new chapter in China's relations with these countries. In fact, during recent months China was visited by Comrades Jaruzelski, Honecker, CSSR Premier Strougal, and Havesi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee. Together with Comrade Zhivkov's visit, they represent important events in Chinese relations with East European countries.

Shortly Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, will undertake a visit to the five countries of Eastern Europe. The broadening of contacts is bearing fruit. Trade between the countries is growing, and scientific and technical cooperation is developing. China and the East European socialist countries are exchanging experiences in conducting economic reforms. All this is undoubtedly necessary for the cause of peace and socialism.

RPP VIEWS U.S. MILITARY RELATIONS WITH PRC, KMT

OW051115 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0300 GMT 5 May 87

[Station observer's commentary]

[Text] You probably have learned that Yang Shangkun, vice chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee and vice chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission, will begin an official visit to the United States on 18 May. His forthcoming visit has become a topic of extensive discussion in the U.S. media. Some newspapers and periodicals have pointed out that China is justifiably dissatisfied with Sino-U.S. relations, including military relations.

Some observers maintain Washington has been very slow and reluctant in keeping its promise of selling certain military technologies to China. At the same time, Washington has been providing great quantities of arms to the Kuomintang [KMT] regime on Taiwan. During the current fiscal year, the Chiang Ching-kuo clique will receive $720 million of U.S. arms. In this connection, an observer of this station writes:

The issue is not merely that of the quantity of weapons the United States will provide Taiwan. The more important issue is that of the quality of these weapons. A U.S. journal, the MILITARY REVIEW, pointed out not long ago that, technologically speaking, U.S. weapons acquired by Taiwan are far better than those the Chinese Armed Forces are equipped with. It pointed out that those military technologies Washington has agreed to transfer to China will not affect this gap.

One point I want to add is that the United States had used various indirect channels to continually expand its military assistance to the regime on Taiwan. With Washington's encouragement, U.S. arms manufacturers have increasingly expanded their activities on Taiwan. This enables the KMT's military authorities in Taiwan to acquire the latest weapons and technologies from their factories, even though the value of these weapons is not included in what Taipei pays to procure U.S. weapons.

KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS PRC YOUTH LEAGUE

OW050857 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0100 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Youth League [CYL], the Soviet Komsomol Central Committee, in the name of Soviet Komsomol members and Soviet youths, has sent a greetings message to members of the CYL and all Chinese young people.

The message reads: Chinese CYL members are forerunners in the struggle against international imperialism and domestic reactionaries and for China's social and national liberation. They have made significant contributions to helping the state transform society on a socialist basis and to educating youth to be loyal to the socialist (?cause).

The message stresses: Members of the Soviet Komsomol and Soviet youths are greatly interested in understanding the achievements of their Chinese counterparts, and they appreciate the Chinese CYL's efforts in rallying Chinese youths to achieve the CYL program of modernizing socialist China. Soviet youths stand for resuming dialogue with their Chinese counterparts. As pointed out by the Komsomol Central Committee in the final report of the 20th Komsomol Congress, they welcome the first steps taken by the Soviet Union and China to improve their relations. We stand for promoting mutual understanding and resuming friendly ties between Soviet and Chinese youths.

DAILY NOTES TRAIN EXPLOSION IN HEILONJIANG

PM301345 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Apr 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Explosion in a Train"]

[Text] Beijing, 23 Apr -- The paper JINGJI RIBAO reported today that on 22 April there was an explosion in a car of an express passenger train traveling from the city of Shuangyashan (northeast Heilongjiang Province) to the city of Qiqihar (in the same province). The explosion killed 9 people and injured 47, 2 of whom have died in the hospital. The cause of the explosion is being investigated, the paper says.

JAPAN, S. KOREA AIM TOWARD 'STRATEGIC TRIANGLE'

LD051328 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Tokyo May 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Kuchko reports:

Regular consultations of foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea held in the South Korean capital became another step on the way to the consolidation of the strategic Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle.

According to the newspaper YOMIURI, during the talks held immediately after the visit to the U.S. of Tadashi Kuranari, minister of foreign affairs of Japan, the sides coordinated 'principles' setting the framework of a joint policy to be pursued by members of the tripartite triangle in the Korean peninsula. It boils down to the expansion of all-round support for the puppet South Korean regime and the continuation of the policy of confrontation in the region.

It is not accidental that participants in the consultations made no mention of the recent constructive proposals of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aimed at lessening tension and improving the situation in the region.

A lot of eloquent phrases were said in Seoul about the striving for a 'dialogue between the north and the south'. However, YOMIURI pointed out, they were aimed primarily at weakening opposition in South Korea and strengthening the positions of the Chon Tu-hwan regime. Tokyo and Washington are obviously worried over the scope of protest actions against the pro-American dictatorial regime in the south of the Korean peninsula.

By accepting Seoul's demand that Japan should "limit its contacts with the DPRK", Tokyo bound its policy in the region ever more closely to the South Korean clique and doomed itself to the obedient going along with Washington and its Seoul placemen.

Demonstrating unity on political problems, participants in the consultations failed at the same time to reach agreement on trade and economic questions. Answering the urgent request of the South Korean minister to increase purchases of South Korean goods, Kuranari only promised to set up a consultative group for analyzing contradictions in bilateral trade.

MOSCOW ON U.S. EFFORTS TO 'DRAG' ASIA INTO SDI

SK290951 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] We now present a (Bleskov) commentary. [Begin recording in Russian fading into Korean translation]

The Reagan Administration is accelerating work in SDI, known as the Star Wars plan. Some time ago, U.S. Defense Weinberger stated that the first (?unit) of this system would be deployed in the early 1990's.

Washington is attempting to drag its allies, including those in Asia, into implementing SDI. Last September, the Japanese Government decided to join the United States' SDI. The Pentagon has great expectations of Japan's modern technological processes in electronics, computers, and laser technology.

Japan will play a vanguard role in the United States' complicated space weapons system. The U.S. Defense Department dragged the Seoul regime into SDI. What will the Seoul regime pursue in SDI? Even if a special research institute is established in South Korea to undertake projects in this sector, how can one think that the Pentagon can obtain important scientific results from the work of South Korean technicians? This will only serve as a subsidiary project for the United States.

What is important is to obtain places to deploy its facilities to prepare the Star Wars plan in this area under its (?control). Such facilities are aleady being built in the Taegu area. (?Observers) regard SDI as a space weapons system that has elements on the ground.

U.S. experts indicate that the effect of this plan depends on where the components of the plan are deployed. The antimissile missiles, with the mission of attacking ballistic missiles, are a good example of such an effect. The firing range of these missiles is 2,000 to 3,000 km.

To effectively smash the ballistic missiles of an imaginary enemy, the antimissile missiles will be deployed somewhere in South Korea or Japan. This reveals the interest Washington has in attempting to drag South Korea into SDI.

Undoubtedly, Seoul is ready to join the United States' SDI. South Korea was already reduced to an advanced nuclear missile base for the Pentagon. Approximately 1,000 U.S. nuclear warheads and means of nuclear delivery, including nuclear Lance missiles, have been deployed in South Korea.

It is not (?wise) for the pro-U.S. Chon Tu-hwan regime to have the security of its own people depend on being the victim of Washington's nuclear strategy.

NEWS AGENCY DENIES DPRK TROOPS STATIONED IN DRA

LD021400 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 TASS -- Unjustifiable provocative reports of the U.S., Japanese and South Korean mass media saying that combat personnel of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is staying in Afghanistan are utter lies, says a commentary of the Central News Agency of Korea. The DPRK Government has never sent its forces either to Afghanistan or to other countries, the news agency notes.

The slanderous allegations evoke anger and indignation in the DPRK. They should be assessed as a fresh attempt by the United States and its allies to justify their stand which creates obstacles to the solution of the Afghan question, the news agency notes.

BRIEFS

ZEOLITE DEPOSITS IN MONGOLIA -- Moscow, 30 Apr (TASS) -- A Soviet-Mongolian expedition has discovered more than 10 large mineral deposits in Mongolia over the past 20 years. The latest find is of zeolite, which has the ability to absorb all kinds of gases and liquids, including those that are poisonous and radioactive. [Summary] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0710 GMT 30 Apr 87 LD]

U.S. STAND ON PAKISTANI NUCLEAR AMBITIONS VIEWED

PM011757 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Soldatov dispatch: "About the 'Islamic Bomb': Washington and Pakistan's Nuclear Pretensions"]

[Text] New York -- Members of Congress do not usually spend long discussing the administration's requests for aid for U.S. allies, in the reasonable belief, evidently, that a government is hardly likely to follow in the footsteps of Washington's imperial policy just for the hell of it. This year, however, the usual course of events was disrupted.

Complexities emerged in connection with the White House decision to allocate $4 billion for military and economc aid to Pakistan. The legislators are not opposed to feeding up one of Washington's most consistent allies. But some of them linked aid to the following condition: Pakistan must assure the United States that it does not intend to create nuclear weapons. Such an assurance is demanded by the Symington amendment to the law on giving military and economic aid to foreign states. Pakistan refused to give such a pledge. That annoyed the legislators.

Frankly speaking, Senator A. Cranston said, we are tired of being misled by the Pakistani leadership. Cranston intends to introduce bill cutting aid to Pakistan in half. Senator J. Glenn and other members of Congress have been sharply critical of the Pakistani Government. Why are they indignant? And why do they criticize Pakistan alone: The Symington amendment requires the administration to also give guarantees that the country receving U.S. aid does not intend to produce nuclear weapons. The White House refuses to give such a guarantee.

Pakistan has never given assurances that it does not intend to create nuclear weapons. Its leaders have made statements of a different kind. In the sixties one of them declared: "We will eat grass, but we will create the bomb." Even in those years they called the future bomb "Islamic." American specialists believe that Pakistan has already created it or is on the threshold of doing so.

Pakistan has not created the nuclear bomb in isolation; the United States has helped. Washington has done so indirectly by giving the country considerable military and economic aid and thus increasing Pakistan's resources, and directly -- by passing nuclear technology to Pakistan. Some of this technology and the materials necessary for creating nuclear weapons have been sold by U.S. European allies acting with Washington's tacit approval.

This was how things stood in the seventies, when the Symington amendment was already in effect. This policy was also continued later. The only difference was that the previous presidents did not advertise their intentions, while the present head of state does. In 1983, R. Reagan declared in conversation with scientists that there is nothing terrible if any country "has one or two bombs." It is just important, he added, that that country "not threaten peace."

One of the Republican administration's first steps was to resume military aid to Pakistan, which had been suspended at one time. Since Pakistan refused to give the United States any assurances, the administration reported to Congress that, "according to its data," Pakistan does not intend to create nuclear weapons. That was enough for the legislators to vote in favor of aid.

This year, however, the administration has felt too shy to give such assurances, because people would simply laugh at them. [paragraph continues]

Perhaps "Irangate" had an influence. In submitting to Congress the plan for aid to Pakistan, the White House used a different stunt: Congress was instructed to make an "exception" to the law on granting aid to foreign states for a period of 6 years. Then it would supposedly be clear how to act. When L. Spector, a specialist on nuclear questions, was asked at hearings in a House committee how this "exception" would affect Pakistan's nuclear ambitions, he replied: "In 6 years Pakistan can create a nuclear arsenal of 20 devices."

The reasons for the present administration's interest in giving military and economic aid to Pakistan are no secret. The White House wants the flow of U.S. weapons and military equipment for the Afghan dushmans to continue without hindrance. High-ranking administration spokesmen speak of the "sad alternative": If aid to Pakistan were stopped, they point out, it might withdraw from play and limit the dushmans' activity on its territory. Then the war in Afghanistan might end, and "the Russians" would win.

By all accounts, the majority of senators and House of Representatives' members share these aims, but at the same time many members of Congress are uneasy. This is understandable. A. Khan, director of Pakistan's nuclear program, declared in a recent interview: "The CIA claim that we have the bomb at our disposal is correct." Although a few days later, following sharply adverse world public reaction to that statement, Khan retracted his words, no one believed him that time.

U.S. legislators are now pondering the consequences of Pakistan creating the bomb: Other Middle Eastern states might begin work in this sphere. There is a real danger that nuclear weapons might fall into the hands of terrorists. The leaders of neighboring India have repeatedly expressed grave concern that Pakistan might acquire nuclear weapons. Delhi has repeatedly urged the United States to pressure Islamabad to abandon the creation of the atom bomb.

Administration spokesmen do not come out publicly against members of Congress who propose imposing sanctions against Pakistan. Behind the scenes, however, bargaining is taking place: For Pakistan, the White House proposes to make an exception to the law on giving aid -- for a period of 2 years. Such a measure, it is said, will make the Pakistani Government think and, perhaps, defer the final section of the work on the "Islamic bomb."

Members of Congress are also refraining from direct criticism of the administration: Legislators understand that not only the "Islamic" bomb but also the Israeli bomb is on their conscience, as well as that of the administration. For many years the United States closed its eyes to Tel Aviv's feverish activity in creating nuclear weapons. When various countries' representatives at General Assembly sessions accused Israel of intending to create nuclear weapons, the U.S. representatives repeated their Israeli collegues' vague statement: "Israel will not be the first state in the Middle East to acquire nuclear weapons." But, last September, M. Vanunu, an Israeli citizen who had worked at a nuclear center in the Negev Desert, declared that his country possesses a nuclear arsenal of 100-200 bombs and delivery vehicles. U.S. officials refused to comment on that report. It is characteristic that the question of the Symington amendment did not arise once during discussion of requests for U.S. aid to Israel.

Reports that the Israeli nuclear bomb had been made from fissionable materials secretly delivered from the United States were also downplayed. When a leak of those materials was discovered, high-ranking persons ordered that the investigation be stopped. No investigation was conducted when it was discovered by chance a few years ago that hundreds of triggers for nuclear bombs had been delivered to Israel from the United States. The situation is also approximately the same with the nuclear bomb which, so experts believe, the racist Pretoria regime has. [paragraph continues]

In 1979, the U.S. Vela satellite registered an unusually bright glare in the South Atlantic, which usually accompanies a nuclear explosion. U.S. specialists claim that a nuclear weapon was exploded in the South Atlantic jointly by Pretoria and Tel Aviv, which cooperated closely in its creation. Members of Congress "took note" of that explosion. Washington continued to give military and economic aid to Israel and the RSA.

The real security of every state, including the United States, demands that the risk of a nuclear conflict be reduced. To a considerable degree this is connected with preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Such efforts have produced quite a lot. More than 130 states have acceded to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. At the same time, a number of countries that refuse to accede to the treaty are working on the creation of nuclear weapons. By helping these states to create their own bomb the United States is grossly violating the international pledges which it has adopted and is undermining its own security.

AWACS FOR PAKISTAN CAUSE INDIA 'SERIOUS CONCERN'

LD051738 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Washington May 5 TASS -- American AWACS planes which Pakistan stubbornly seeks to lay hands on, will be evidently leased to it. This is reported by the newspaper "DEFENSE NEWS", which is close to the military-industrial quarters. It is more likely, the newspaper points out, that Pakistan will be given the plane system E-2C Hawkeye, which will make it possible to by-pass the debate of the deal at the U.S. Congress and will accelerate the transfer of planes to the Islamabad regime.

A request for U.S. spy planes was contained in a recent letter by Pakistani Prime Minister Junejo to U.S. President Reagan. The press reports that the head of the Pakistani Government offered in exchange for the lease of AWACS planes to help in stepping up considerably terrorist attacks by Afghan Dushmans on people's Afghanistan. Several days after reports on Junejo's letter appeared in the U.S. press, a Pentagon spokesman said that the U.S. Administration agreed in principle to speed up the transfer of AWACS planes to Pakistan.

The transfer of AWACS planes to Islamabad provokes a serious concern of India which was subjected three times to armed aggression from Pakistan. The Indian Government and public believe that this dangerous deal will inevitably lead to further aggravation of military tension in South Asia and escaclation of a ruinous arms race in the region.

ARTICLE REBUTS IRAN PAPER'S TANKER CLAIM

PM040925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by A. Kapralov under the "Pertinent Notes" rubric: "Fabrications and Facts"]

[Text] The Persian Gulf countries are well aware of the importance the Soviet Union attaches to ensuring freedom of navigation in this region. People here also welcomed with interest the USSR's proposal to begin multilateral talks on ensuring the safety of sea communications in the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf, and the Strait of Hormuz.

In this connection the ballyhoo raised by the Western press and taken up by the Iranian press over the chartering of three Soviet tankers to Kuwait cannot fail to arouse astonishment. [paragraph continues]

"The Soviet Union should stop supplying tankers to Kuwait under the Soviet flag," the Iranian newspaper ETTELA'AT pontificates, and even equates the tankers and the U.S. military fleet in the Persian Gulf, thereby hinting at certain military aspects to the commercial deal between the Kuwait charterers and the Soviet shipping enterprise.

To clarify this question we turned to the I.S. Osminin, acting general director of the All-Union "Sovkomflot" Foreign Trade Association.

"As the mediating organization," Igor Sergeyevich said, "'Sovkomflot' concludes such contracts with any charterers from those countries with which the USSR has trade and economic relations. Incidentally, Iran is no exception. In this case it is a question of a Kuwaiti company chartering free Soviet tankers to ship oil. When this deal was concluded, the Soviet ship owners were naturally pursuing exclusively commercial interests. Agreements of this kind between our countries' commercial partners are of a bilateral nature. For instance, Soviet charterers also use Kuwaiti ships to transport Soviet exports. So judge for yourselves," Igor Sergeyevich concluded. "The deal with Kuwait is an ordinary commercial operation like any other. In addition the neutral waters of the Persian Gulf are a zone free for navigation where Soviet ships have been sailing for many decades."

The outcome is that they are composing stories about the appearance of tankers under the Soviet flag in the Persian Gulf in vain. And there is still less reason to tell our country with whom and where its shipping enterprises should conclude commercial deals.

COMMENTARY VIEWS IRANIAN USE OF AFGHANS IN WAR

NC301047 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Yuriy Borisov commentary: "A Liar Has a Short Memory Span"]

[Excerpts] Some days ago, Tehran radio disseminated a report about a news conference in Mashhad in which the so-called Muslim Afghan revolutionaries participated; it was given detailed and elaborate coverage on Iranian television and in the country's publications. Let us examine why the Iranian media accorded so much attention and respect to ringleaders of the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands.

It is highly probable that they were trying to refute the facts about the Iranian authorities' efforts to prohibit the Afghan refugees' return to their homeland. [passage omitted]

The families of Afghan refugees who successfully surmounted all the obstacles placed in their path by the Islamic Revolution Guards and Afghan counterrevolutionaries and escaped from Iran say that the Iranian authorities work in every possible way to intimidate Afghans who wish to return to their homeland. They are told that they will be killed or imprisoned if they return to Afghanistan. Those who do not believe such false tales are told that they will be transported to the western Iranian border. They are forced to go to the Iranian-Iraqi warfronts and their families are held as hostages.

It has been reported that those who obtained exit visas from Iran were arrested and taken to court. These are the facts about the efforts of Afghan counterrevolutionary leaders and their Iranian supporters, and any attempt to prove the opposite is a futile waste of time. As the Persian adage says: A liar has a short memory.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV ACTIVITIES IN IRKUTSK REPORTED

Cables Gorbachev, Gromyko

LD042236 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2125 GMT 4 May 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrades Gorbachev and Gromyko were the addresses on the telegram from Todor Zhivkov, sent by him from on board a plane. The telegram expresses the wish to the fraternal Soviet people for new, great successes in the fulfillment of the 27th CPSU Congress' and the January CPSU Central Commitee Plenum's historical decisions and the conviction that Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and cooperation would strengthen and deepen to the benefit of our peoples, in the name of the cause of peace and socialism.

Visits Lenin, War Monuments

LD051317 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] On 4 and 5 May, en route to the PRC, Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and Bulgarian State Council chairman, was in Irkutsk. The Bulgarian leader laid flowers on the monument to Vladimir Ilich Lenin and at the eternal flame, the memorial to those of Siberia who fell in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

The guest spoke with activists from the oblast division of the Society for Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship, visited the architectural and ethnographical museum, and the Limnology Institute's museum on Lake Baykal. Todor Zhivkov was met and accompanied by Comrade Potapov, second secretary of the Irkutsk Oblast Party Committee and by other town and oblast leaders.

Departs Region

LD050909 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0557 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Irkutsk, 5 May (TASS) -- Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Bulgarian State Council chairman, left Irkutsk today. He stopped over yesterday en route for Beijing.

Before departing, Todor Zhivkov told a TASS correspondent:

I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to visit Irkutsk, the center of the dynamically developing area of the USSR, one which is undergoing a process of renewal. I wish to express gratitude to the party and Soviet leadership of the oblast for the cordiality and hospitality accorded all of us. We convinced ourselves yet again -- and one can feel this especially on the soil of Siberia -- of the striving for changes the Soviet people are making. In our homeland, likewise, we are working on implementing the tasks of restructuring in various areas of life. Communists and all Bulgarians are convinced that the strengthening ties of friendship between our peoples represent a guarantee of successful socialist construction and strengthening of peace in the world.

FURTHER DETAILS OF YELTSIN ACTIVITIES IN SOFIA

PM060935 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Apr 87 p 1

[TASS correspondent report: "Moscow CPSU Gorkom Delegation in Sofia"]

[Excerpts] Sofia, 24 Apr -- Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and Bulgarian State Council chairman, today received B.N. Yeltsin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, who is heading a Moscow CPSU Gorkom delegation which has arrived here at the invitation of Sofia City BCP Committee. [passage omitted]

Today the delegation had a meeting with members of the Sofia BCP City Committee Bureau, secretaries of the BPC Okrug Committee, and members of the city committee apparatus. At the meeting [Sofia City Committee First Secretary] I. Panev stressed that the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum is of historic significance for Bulgaria and the other socialist countries. We closely follow the Moscow party organization's work, he said, and are pleased to note that restructuring in Moscow is gathering pace and already producing concrete results. The CPSU's course of restructuring and the Leninist party's struggle for peace throughout the world meet with ardent support from the entire Bulgarian people.

B.N. Yeltsin gave a profound analysis of the reasons which have made it necessary to radically restructure all spheres of life in Soviet society; talked about progress in renewing the style and methods of collegial leadership, improving economic structures, and broadening the rights of labor collectives; and dwelt on the problems that continue to retard progress in a number of areas. He stressed the need for openness and criticism as the most important elements of the course of democratization. He also discussed the constructive atmosphere in the work of the capital's party organization, which is based on Leninist principles, and about difficulties in developing Moscow, their causes, and ways to overcome them.

There was a warm, friendly discussion between the head of the delegation and inhabitants of the Bulgarian capital outside the city committee building.

The delegation members laid a wreath at the G. Dimitrov Mausoleum and flowers at the V.I. Lenin memorial in the center of Sofia.

They visited an electronic transformer element plant where, in addition to various instruments, synthetic crystals are produced. The enterprise's products are exported to CEMA countries and other states.

That evening, the delegation visited the Bulgarian Industrial-Economic Association, which was established 7 years ago as a new form of managing the country's national economy. The association plays an important role in the development of small and medium enterprises in Bulgaria.

CSSR LEADERS COMMEMORATE LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY

LD051931 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Prague May 5 TASS -- A celebration meeting of the working people of Prague was held here today to mark the 42nd anniversary of the completion of the Czechoslovak people's national liberation struggle against fascist occupationists and the liberation of Czechoslovakia.

The meeting was attended by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President Gustav Husak, chairman of the government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Lubomir Strougal, other leaders of the Republic.

Delivering a report, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Chairman of the government of the Czech Socialist Republic Ladislav Adamec said that the Soviet people had made the decisive contribution to the victory over fascism in the Second World War, to the liberation of Czechoslovakia.

Gustav Husak, Lubomir Strougal, other party leaders and statesmen of the Republic attended a wreath-laying ceremony in Prague.

Wreaths were laid at the Olsansky cemetery to the monument to the Soviet servicemen who lost their lives for the liberation of Czechoslovakia, to the unknown soldier's tomb at the Vitkov Hill in Prague.

SOVIET-POLISH CONFERENCE ON MEDIA RESPONSIBILITY

LD020510 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1722 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, 30 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Andrey Pershin reports:

The tasks of the mass information media of the USSR and the Polish People's Republic in the cause of restructuring all aspects of life and accelerating the social and economic development of the two countries were at the center of attention of the participants in the Soviet-Polish conference on "The Leninist Concept of the Press and the Present," which ended in Warsaw today.

Prominent journalists and scholars from both countries stressed the importance of the Leninist doctrine on the press, which is still a mighty weapon in the process of socialist construction. At the meeting, a businesslike exchange of experiences and views took place on matters of reporting problems in domestic life and foreign policy in the press, and of joint opposition to the machinations of ideological opponents. Concrete steps were marked out for expanding and deepening cooperation between the mass information media of the USSR and the Polish People's Republic. A decision was made to make such meetings traditional.

FRANCE CONDUCTS NUCLEAR TEST IN SOUTH PACIFIC

LD060634 Moscow TASS in English 0625 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Paris May 6 TASS -- France carried out this year's first underground nuclear test at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific on Wednesday, the FRANCE PRESSE NEWS AGENCY reported from Wellington quoting New Zealand's seismological station.

The explosion is measured at five kilotons, a spokesman for the station said.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON MARCHAIS VISIT

Visits Armenia

LD292354 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1355 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] Yerevan, 29 Apr (TASS) -- Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, has spent 3 days getting to know Armenia.

At a conversation held at the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, the Central Committee First Secretary Karen Demirchyan told the guest about the work of the republican party organization in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and restructuring in all areas of socioeconomic life. Georges Marchais laid flowers on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Victory Park and saw the sights and new construction in the Armenian capital. The guest made a trip to Echmiadzinskiy Rayon and to the resort town of Dilizhan.

Interviewed in Yerevan

LD301153 Moscow TASS in English 1044 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Yerevan April 30 TASS -- The French Communists and all progressive people are following with much attention and interest the revolutionary reforms in the USSR and are expressing confidence that the Soviet people will cope with the aims they set to themselves, a TASS correspondent was told by Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party. He is currently on a tour of the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

Perfection of socialism and socialist democracy, the Soviet society's present-day dynamism, development in the direction of more openness, the reorganizations in the economic machinery are for the French a source of interest in and sympathy for the USSR. Today capitalism is going through a deep and protracted crisis, while the Soviet Union basing itself on socialism's enormous potential is boldly marching on the way of renovation, sweeping aside everything that is obsolete in the society's socio-economic life, he pointed out.

Touching upon new political thinking in international affairs, in particular on disarmament problems, elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, Georges Marchais stressed that the French Communists fully support the latest proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev and declare for an end to nuclear tests, elimination of chemical weapons, for non-militarization of outer space, a cut in military spendings and France's active participation in all disarmament talks.

The Communists declare against the policy of rearmament and insist that the French Government should make a real contribution to balanced nuclear disarmament, contribute to the elimination of all nuclear forces by the year 2000.

Touching upon the relations between the French Communist Party and the CPSU, the French Communist leader described them as close and fruitful, and added that they would further steadily develop and be increasingly enriched.

Holds Talks With Gorbachev

LD051337 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1214 GMT 5 May 87

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- There was a meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and G. Marchais, secretary-general of the French Communist Party [PCF] on Monday May 4.

"Soviet Communists, said M.S. Gorbachev, feel great affinity for the struggle of their French comrades in defense of the interests of working people, for peace and social progress, liberty and socialism. In the contemporary complex situation the CPSU and the PCF are like true comrades-in-arms in the struggle against the threat of nuclear war, for security and disarmament, and against the aggressive policy of international imperialism.

M.S. Gorbachev and G. Marchais noted that since their previous meeting in September 1985 there have been major changes for the better in the world which exercise a profound and lasting influence on all social development. The atmosphere of international life is changing. Various social and political forces, professional and religious organizations, and outstanding cultural figures are demanding more and more decisively the prevention of a nuclear apocalypse, safeguarding lasting peace, universal security, and mutually advantageous peaceful cooperation between peoples. The ideas of struggle for a nuclear free world, to save civilization and life on earth, are becoming a leitmotif in consciousness which is common to all mankind.

This important new historical reality is the result of the program put forward by the USSR for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, which was given concrete expression recently in the Soviet proposals for the complete elimination of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe.

For the first time the real prospect has been opened up of destroying a whole class of nuclear missile weapons. The USSR proposals have become the expression of a new interpretation of the problems of world development with the object of ensuring the future of the human race.

During the meeting it was noted that confrontation between the forces of peace and the forces of reaction and war is getting more and more intensive and strained with each day. The United States is essentially revising the mutual understanding that was achieved in Reykjavik and is continuing its Star Wars program. The need to strengthen further the potential of the healthy forces of mankind -- the forces of reason and of peace -- is increasing.

Georges Marchais noted that the PCF was the only party in France which struggled resolutely against the adoption of and voted against the adoption of the bill on the military program sent for the approval of the National assembly with the common consent of the president of the Republic and the government.

French Communists are consistent defenders of the independence and sovereignty of their country. In particular they advocate an effective policy of national defense and have put forward corresponding proposals. At the same time the security of the country also depends today at least to an equal extent on political factors and on the desire to act for peace and disarmament. The law on the military program ignores these demands and brings France into increasingly participating in the senseless arms race. Indeed, this law envisages a considerable increase in military expenditure; the production, development [razrabotka] and creation [sozdaniye] of nuclear and space arms, and neutron and chemical weapons; and the continuation of nuclear tests on Mururoa. This policy is being implemented despite the behest of the times and goes against the unprecedented possibilities opening up thanks to the USSR proposals and measures directed at nuclear disarmament, the elimination of chemical weapons, and the reduction of conventional arms.

In these conditions, the PCF is stepping up its efforts for unity among Frenchmen in the struggle for peace and against the threats to the very existence of modern civilization being created by imperialism; its struggle for France to promote the conclusion of treaties on balanced and verifiable [kontroliruyemyy] disarmament, and on the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

M.S. Gorbachev and G. Marchais noted that the European countries, which possess enormous economic, scientific-technological, and human potential, are capable of playing a considerably greater role in improving the international climate. Both parties speak out in favor of continuing and expanding cooperation across the whole continent in the areas of the economy, science and technology, ecology, and humanitarian problems. They demand the decisive elimination of discrimination and hindrance in pan-European communication and in the development of contacts between peoples and working people of these countries.

The CPSU and the PCF attach great significance to the development of Soviet-French dialogue and to enhancing its role as an important factor for security and detente, and to putting into action all reserves and possibilities for developing cooperation between the USSR and France.

Both parties expressed their anxiety at the anti-Soviet campaigns in France directed at worsening relations between our countries. The lessons of history and the demands of the present day, the traditions of friendship between our two peoples and their present interests urgently require a positive, equal and constructive development of Franco-Soviet relations. Communists in the USSR and France are firmly speaking out in favor of precisely such a development.

The tasks and the responsibility of campaigners for the future of mankind are becoming increasingly significant and the range of their concerns increasingly wide. Ensuring peace presupposes not only a halt in the arms race and real disarmament measures, but also the reorganization of the whole system of international relations.

Hundreds of millions of deprived people -- men, women, and children -- live in the countries of the Third World. The fantastic sums swallowed up by the death-dealing nuclear arms race ought to be used to combat hunger and solve the problems of the developing countries.

Peace and development are closely interconnected, and are at the focus of the demands for a new international economic order based on justice, democracy, cooperation, and independence.

The CPSU and PCF consider that objective conditions exist in the world for the creation of a powerful and effective coalition of all peace-loving forces, capable of creating a barrier to the nuclear threat and of guaranteeing the survival of mankind.

In achieving this aim, a big role should be played by the communist parties, by their constructive efforts and their active participation in the antiwar movement, in dialogue and cooperation with the most varied forces which are ready for this.

Taking this into account, the importance of the free and equal cooperation of communists of all continents is enhanced. The forms of this cooperation -- bilateral and multilateral -- can and should be varied and out of the ordinary and be in line with both the national interests of each fraternal party and the common interests of communists throughout the whole world.

M.S. Gorbachev and G. Marchais spoke in favor of staging a major joint meeting of all the different forces in Europe which advocate disarmament, to which end the PCF is making great efforts along with other parties.

An exchange of opinions and information on the activities of the CPSU and the PCF in their own countries took up a considerable part of the meeting. G. Marchais spoke of the PCF's tasks and current policies. He indicated that the self-administering socialism for which the PCF is fighting, will find it features on the basis of the requirements of the people of the country and its specific peculiarities, and, on the strength of this, will, from start to finish, be a result of the creative endeavor of the French. He spoke of the new path proposed by the PCF for progress toward this prospect: a unification of the popular majority and a new alliance in the struggle for anticapitalist goals with a constant reliance on the awareness and activeness of the popular movement.

M.S. Gorbachev talked about the course of implementing the strategy of acceleration and renewal adopted by the 27th CPSU congress, about restructuring in various areas of public life, about the significance of the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and about the preparations for the next Central Committee plenum.

The historically youthful socialist society has, in the decades of its existence, traveled a path equivalent to centuries. Now it is a question of bringing it up to a qualitatively new level of development. Restructuring -- embracing as it does in a package all sides of life, the economy, the political system, spiritual life, culture, and ideology -- is an expression of the vital force of socialism, of its capacity for self-improvement. While we are aware of the complexity of the tasks confronting us, including the psychological ones, said M.S. Gorbachev, we are sure that our country will enter the 21st century worthy of its challenge. The guarantee of this is the activeness and energy of the masses, openness, and the successive democratization of all cells of the public organism.

Comrade Marchais confirmed the French Communists' total support for the revolutionary strategy of accelerating socioeconomic development, restructuring, and democratizing Soviet society. He remarked that this CPSU policy deals a powerful blow to anti-Sovietism and exerts a positive effect on the sociopolitical atmosphere and on the class struggle in the world.

Seventy years after the Great October Revolution, its revolutionary ideas of peace, democracy, and socialism have lost not a scrap of their dynamism. Socialism which renews itself and grows stronger in all its variety has been and remains a most important factor in world progress.

M.S. Gorbachev and G. Marchais emphasized that ties between the CPSU and the PCF are developing in a spirit of internationalist solidarity and fraternal friendship, on the basis of the principles of the joint statement adopted as a result of the summit meeting of the two parties' leaders in September 185.

M.S. Gorbachev wished G. Marchais and all French Communists success in their struggle for the interests of the working people, for peace and social progress, and for friendship between the Soviet and French peoples.

CPSU Central Committee secretary A.F. Dobrynin; members of the CPSU Central Committee V.V. Zagladin and A.S. Chernyayev; and members of the Politburo and secretaries of the PCF Central Committee A. Lajoinie and M. Gremetz; and member of the PCF Central Committee J.F. Gau took part in the meeting.

Seen Off by Dobrynin, Zagladin

LD050647 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0630 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- Georges Marchais, general secretary of the Communist Party of France, today left the Soviet Union. He made a trip to the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. At the airport in Moscow, the guest was seen off by Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the CPSU Central Committee; and other senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

TRADE DELEGATES, INDUSTRIALISTS VIEW PROSPECTS

LD280936 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2210 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Marseilles, 28 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports: Are joint enterprises obliged to be involved in the entire production cycle, or can they limit themselves to assembling finished parts and to delivering half-finished products? Do early types of table grape, which could be introduced into the south of the Ukraine, interest the Soviet agro-industrial complex? Is there a possibility of establishing joint enterprises for the production of spare parts for tractors and drilling equipment? These and many other specific questions were asked at a meeting of Marseilles industrialists with representatives of the Soviet trade delegation to France, and of the USSR General Consulate in Marseilles.

The meeting, held in Marseilles' international trade center, is the final stage in the careful preparation for a visit to the Soviet Union by a representative delegation of business circles of this town, the second largest in France, and of adjacent departments. We are following the course of important economic reforms being implemented in the USSR with great attention, said Louis Depoint, head of the department for socialist countries in the French Economy, Finance, and Privatization Ministry. We hope that as a result of efforts by the two sides, trade between our countries will more fully correspond to the opportunities of both the French and the vast Soviet economy.

It has developed throughout the course of history that 90 percent of the total volume of bilateral Soviet-French trade lies with the north and central regions of France, and only 10 percent lies in the south, it was noted at the meeting. Marseilles' industrialists have decided to make a practical contribution to removing this "distortion." This is the precise reason for the forthcoming visit to the USSR of our delegation in mid-June, Andre Mercier, representative of the Marseilles Chamber of Commerce and Trade, said in conversation with the TASS correspondent. There will be some 30 representiatives in the group from banks, agro-industrial, machinebuilding, transport, chemical, pharmaceutical, and other companies from the south of France and from the independent port of Marseilles, the largest not only in France, but in the Mediterranean as a whole. It will also include representatives of local bodies of authority, including Robert Vigouroux, mayor of Marseilles, and a famous neurophysiology surgeon. As well as Moscow, they are to visit their partner town of Odessa, to which Marseilles is linked by traditional relations of friendship and cooperation. We hope that the forthcoming meetings will enable us to establish direct contact with soviet organizations and enterprises, to study on the spot the opportunities for activating trade and industry cooperation, and the establishing of joint Soviet-French firms, Mercier stressed.

OIL TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH FINLAND

LD251720 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1300 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The price differences, which have been slowing down oil trading deals, have been resolved between Neste, the national oil and gas company, and the Soviet Soyuznefteeksport. A framework agreement, signed in Helsinki today, will create the pricing framework for the oil to be resold by Neste. The differing views on prices have delayed the deliveries of oil to such an extent that only one tenth of this year's quota has been fulfilled so far.

Neste and Soyuznefteeksport did not agree today on new oil consignments that the Finnish company would then sell on the international markets. Neste and the Soviet side signed an agreement that confirms the amount of trading oil this year at the level of approximately 5 million tonnes, already agreed in the goods exchange agreement. Oil is used in Finnish-Soviet trade as a means of balancing trade. The oil is registered as an import to Finland, although Neste transfers the oil consignments to new buyers without the oil coming to Finland at all. The speeding up of trading oil deals is regarded as necessary during the current trade imbalnce with the Soviet Union, becuase Finnish exports are practically at a standstill due to a lack of imports to help balance the trade.

PRAVDA CITES GALLEGO REPORT TO PCPE CONGRESS

PM051401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS and PRAVDA own correspondent dispatch: "Pressing Tasks"]

[Text] Madrid, 25 Apr -- The Second Congress of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain [PCPE] began its work here today. More than 1,000 delegates from all the country's autonomous regions will discuss the PCPE Central Committee report, a political program, and changes in the Statutes, and will elect the party's leading organs.

About 30 delegations of communist and workers parties and national liberation movements are attending the congress. The congress participants greeted with applause the CPSU delegation headed by G.I. Revenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Kiev Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom.

Ignacio Gallego, PCPE secretary general, gave the report. Our congress, he said, is taking place at a time of the serious exacerbation of the crisis of capitalism, the growth of the forces of socialism and communism, and the activation of the peoples' struggle for national and social liberation.

The Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened up the way to liberation for the working class and the peoples of the whole world, continues to bring its deep influence to bear on the course of world development. The PCPE is preparing to celebrate widely the 70th anniversary of October as the outstanding event of our time, as a great cause for celebration not only for communists but also for all supporters of peace and social progress.

Our party, the speaker emphasized, wholly supports the strategic line of the 27th CPSU Congress aimed at achieving deep socioeconomic changes, developing socialist democracy, and expanding openness. Very broad strata of the Spanish people are following with great sympathy the CPSU's restructuring of all areas of the life of Soviet society.

Dwelling on questions of the international situation, I. Gallego welcomed the peace initiatives of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, opening the way to disarmament and the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The speaker resolutely condemned the "Star Wars" program now being pursued by the U.S. Administration as "the most serious threat to peace throughout the world," and as "a decisive new spiral in the gigantic arms race."

I. Gallego called upon Communists to activate the struggle for peace, the elimination of U.S. military bases on Spanish territory and the abrogation of the bilateral treaty with the United States, Spain's withdrawal from NATO and the disbandment of the military blocs, nuclear disarmament in Europe, and the declaration of the Mediterranean Sea and the Iberian peninsula to be a zone free of nuclear weapons.

A substantial place in the report was devoted to Spain's internal political situation and the struggle of the working class and all working people for their rights, against the social and economic policy of the authorities and the employers, against the growth of unemployment and reduced living standards, and for unity of action by the trade unions and the forces of the left. I. Gallego pointed out that Spain's unemployment figures now total 22 percent of the active population and more than 8 million Spaniards live in conditions of poverty.

In the struggle of the working class and working people for the revolutionary transformation of society, he continued, Communists are called upon to play the vanguard role. The creation of a strong, unified Communist Party based on the scientific principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism is a vital, objective necessity now. The main cause of the crisis being experienced by the Spanish Communist Movement was "Eurocommunism," which has demonstrated its complete bankruptcy. Aware of the necessity to move toward the unity of the Spanish Communist Movement, the PCPE appeals to all Communists without exception to conduct a wide discussion of all contentious issues and make every effort to resolve them in the interests of the struggle for socialism.

In conclusion I. Gallego expressed the certainty that the party congress would be an important stage in the strengthening and growth of the PCPE's influence among the popular masses and would further the unity of all Spanish Communists in the struggle for social progress, peace, and socialism.

ARTICLES REPORT, ANALYZE PNC ALGIERS SESSION

IZVESTIYA Reports Activities

PM051227 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 April 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Correspondent V. Neznamov dispatch: "Step Toward Unity"]

[Text] Algiers, -- The 18th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] ended here 25 April. The session proved a notable milestone in strengthening the unity of the Palestinian resistance movement.

The organizations taking part in the Algiers discussion had a variety of views on how to implement the Palestinian resistance movement's ideals. There were arguments, often very heated, resulting from clashes of interest among the different political forces in the resistance movement and the leaders' personal ambitions. Nevertheless, a common platform was found. The session's political resolution confirms the Arab people of Palestine's inalienable rights to self-determination and the creation of their own state on the Arab territories now occupied by Israel.

The Palestinian parliament in exile advocated continuing the struggle against the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance and repudiated the Camp David agreements. The PNC session participants expressed their support for the idea of holding an international peace conference on the Middle East under the UN aegis with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all interested sides, including the PLO. The political resolution stressed the necessity of creating a preparatory committee for convening the conference in the near future.

The Palestinian resistance movement does not separate the struggle for a just settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict from its participation in the peoples' struggle for peace. In this connection it actively supports the Soviet Union's peaceful initiatives and favors making the Middle East a nuclear-free zone.

The PNC session adopted a decision on certain organizational questions. In particular, a decision was made to expand the PNC membership by increasing respresentation from independent figures and from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Communist Party. Yasir 'Arafat was elected chairman of the PLO Executive Committee

PRAVDA Views Session

PM051053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 Second Edition p 5

[P. Demchenko "International Observations": "Palestinians Rallying Their Ranks"]

[Text] The PNC (parliament in exile) session that recently ended in Algiers was unquestionably an extremely notable event in the history of the Palestinian movement. This is not merely because of a very long gap of 2 and 1/2 years since the previous session -- something which had never happened before -- of much more importance are the decisons made during the session. Especially if we take into account the difficult and sometimes tragic events in the Middle East recently; affecting the Palestinians first and foremost.

Suffice it merely to point out the succession of stories that have emerged this year, each more alarming than the last: The Palestinians have found themselves literally in a crossfire. In the occupied West Bank and in southern Lebanon they are being shot at, clubbed down, and thrown into prison by Israeli troops. [paragraph continues]

They have been dying in the Beirut and Sidon refugee camps by blows of their former allies -- the Shi'ite Amal movement's detachments. Meanwhile the Palestinian leaders were unable to agree among themselves and acted in an uncoordinated way.

Let us recall that the disagreements emerged after the Israeli attack on Lebanon in 1982, when the PLO leading organs and combat detachments were forced to leave Beirut. They were scattered across eight countries. This in itself created complications. The PLO headquarters was established in Tunis, almost 2,500 km from the homeland, far from the centers of the people's active struggle.

Initially it seemed that this fragmentation was temporary and would gradually disappear, but events took a different turn. To begin with, a wave of criticism of the PLO leadership's style emerged among the Palestinian fighters who remained with the Syrian troops in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' Valley; then conflict began to widen. Acute differences flared up between the PLO leadership and certain Arab governments and complicated the situation. As a result, some of the organizations broke away.

All this had regrettable consequences. The Palestinian movement's leadership grew weaker, and the Israelis did not fail to exploit the fact to intensify their repression in the occupied lands. The Arab front of resistance to the aggressor was deprived of an important link in the PLO. The impossiblity of elaborating a unified Palestinian position clouded the prospects for convening an international conference on the peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis. Finally, the alliance between the national progressive forces of Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance movement disintegrated. This gave the Amal movement the chance to start implementing its plan to eliminate the Sabra and Shatila camps, drive some of the Palestinians out of Burj al-Barajinah, and limit their zone of occupation in the Sidon area.

The opinion even emerged in the Western bourgeois press that the nature of the Palestinian problem had changed and must be presented somehow differently. In fact this was by no means the case: The Palestinian problem is an objective reality, and it remains as acute as ever. Its essence lies in the aspiration of the Palestinian people, who now number more than 4.5 million, scattered throughout many countries since as far back as 1948 due to Israeli aggression, to secure the right to national self-determination and to have their own state.

This is why, despite all the difficulties, the Palestinians have never abandoned the struggle for their rights and have never abandoned efforts to restore unity to their ranks and restore the normal functioning of the PLO organs. This was no easy task, because the situation in that organization could not fail to reflect the acute differences dividing the Arab states. Nevertheless, after many mediation efforts and a series of meetings in various capitals, the ground was successfully prepared for the convocation of the PNC with representatives from most of the organizations taking part.

Summarizing the course of the 6 days of, at times, stormy debate and the decisions made in Algiers, one comes to the conclusion that the PLO has demonstrated that it is a real force to be reckoned with. It succeeded in resolving many organizational problems and determining its political platform. The documents adopted point out the importance of rallying the Palestinian ranks on an anti-imperialist basis, reaffirm the rejection of capitulationist deals of the Camp David type, and voice supports for the Soviet proposl to hold an international conference on the Middle east with the participation of all interested parties, including the PLO.

Naturally, the session could not answer all the questions and untie all the knots -- this applies particularly to regularizing ties with Arab governments. I would especially like to note that the effectiveness of the program outlined will depend to a large extent on what the Palestinian liberation movement's relationship is like with the other forces opposing imperialism and Zionism, first and foremost with Syria. It is well known that that country holds key positions in the Middle East. Its steadfastness against the Israeli aggressor and imperialist pressure has been proved by many years of stern tests. Regarding the Soviet Union's attitude, and indeed Syria's attitude to the Palestinian question, that was set out in the Soviet-Syrian statement published Monday on the results of President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Moscow.

"An all-embracing and lasting peace in the Middle East," the document says, "can only be established on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the implementation of the Arab people of Palestine's legitimate national rights, including their right to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state and to return to their own homes in accordance with the UN decisions."

I repeat: In the Middle East much depends, including the resolution of the Palestinian problem, on cohesion among anti-imperialist forces and the restoration of the Arab front of resistance to the Israeli aggressor. Peace can only be achieved in that region through collective efforts. It is precisely in this context that the results of the Algiers session of the Palestinian parliament must be viewed.

SOVIET OFFICIAL DISCUSSES REGIONAL CONFERENCE

NC040643 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] Regarding the call to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East, a senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official said the following to AL-SAFIR: We believe the Middle East peace process requires the collective efforts of all parties concerned to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement to the dispute. We have our views on how to achieve this settlement. We do not want anyone to impose anything on the parties concerned because a collective action is what is required.

On Lebanon's participation in the conference, the Soviet official said: Lebanon and the parties concerned must make the decisions in this regard because there can be no comprehensive settlement if any of the parties that have common borders with Israel do not participate in the conference, the object of which is to sign comprehensive peace treaties. We do not want a solution to a problem that affects Lebanon and its sovereignty in its absence. The official pointed out that the Soviet Union has not and will not link an Israeli withdrawal from the south with a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute because the Soviet Union does not consider such a withdrawal to be linked to anything; rather, it should take place immediately and without any preconditions. Israel must withdraw, he stressed.

SOLIDARITY DELEGATION'S YAR VISIT REPORTED

PM291513 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Guests in San'a"]

[Text"] San'a -- A Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries delegation headed by S.I. Kalandarov, executive secretary of the committee, which is visiting here, has been received by 'A. 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister of the Yemen Arab Republic. [YAR]

The Afro-Asian solidarity movement, which has made a large contribution to the peoples' struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and Zionism and the strengthening of world peace, was spoken of highly at the meeting.

The YAR head of government expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet Union for the assistance given to the North Yemeni people in consolidating the gains of the 1962 antimonarchist revolution and in laying the foundations of the country's economy. "As for the Soviet Union's peace initiatives in the spheres of nuclear disarmament and preventing the militarization of outer space," 'A. 'Abd al-Ghani said, "they receive full support in North Yemen, since they serve the cause of delivering the peoples from the heavy psychological and financial burden involved in the nuclear race."

A cooperation agreement was signed here between the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African countries and the YAR Peace and Solidarity Committee. It provides for expanding ties between the two countries' publics within the Afro-Asian solidarity movement.

BA'TH PARTY APPROVAL OF AL-ASAD VISIT NOTED

PM011159 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Damascus, 30 Apr -- SANA agency reports that a session of the Ba'th Party regional leadership was held here on Wednesday and was addressed by H. al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of Syria.

Al-Asad reported the results of his recent visit to Moscow during which there was a discussion of the situation in the Middle East and the international arena.

The members of the Ba'th Party regional leadership highly assessed the results of the visit, which has become an important stage in the development of relations between the two countries and has promoted the further consolidation of the forces of the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist front.

GOSR CONFERENCE OPENS IN DAMASCUS 26 APR

LD261402 Moscow TASS in English 1048 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Damascus April 26 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vadim Shchennikov reports:

A conference, "Great October in the Destinies of the Peoples of the East", [GOSR] opened in a ceremony here. The delegations of over 30 states arrived in the capital of Syria to attend the forum sponsored by the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO).

Nuri Abdul Razaq, AAPSO general secretary, delivering an opening address to the conference, said that the impact of the Great October Revolution on the entire course of world developments has never ceased starting from 1917.

The ideas of the Great October touched off a powerful upsurge in the national liberation movement in eastern countries. Over 100 states gained political independence within a short period after the Second World War.

The strategic goal of the Soviet policy remains unchanged throughout 70 years, Razaq stressed. This goal is to defend socialism and peace the world over, to repulse acts of imperialist aggression, to support the national liberation movements of peoples, to work for disarmament and socio-economic progress.

This is the reason why the political line approved by the 27th CPSU Congress, the constructive proposals and initiatives launched by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev were enthusiastically supported in all parts of the world.

Sulayman Qaddah, deputy general secretary of the regional leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, told the conference about the sweeping changes which had occurred in the Arab east under the impact of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

He read out the text of a message by President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria to the participants in the conference. It speaks about the immense importance of the October Revolution to the destinies of the peoples of the orient, expresses gratitude to the Soviet Union for assistance and support lended to the Syrian people in the struggle against the intrigues by the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

F.A. Tabeyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation who heads the Soviet delegation, said that all countries, including Asian and African ones, could gain immeasurably in the future from the Soviet Union's consistent and tireless efforts to create a nuclear-free world.

Relieving nuclear confrontation in Europe would make it possible to speed up the implementation of the ideas of establishing nuclear-free zones in Africa, in the Middle East and in other parts of the globe, contribute towards defusing several conflict situations.

MEETINGS WITH MOROCCO CONCLUDE 28 APRIL

LD291016 Rabat Domestic Service in Arab 2000 GMT 28 Apr 87

[Text] The proceedings of the Moroccan-Soviet joint committee, which began last Thursday, end in Moscow today. Yesterday's proceedings were marked by meetings between the Moroccan delegation -- which is led by Mohamed Kabbaj, minister of equipment and cadre training -- and Soviet officials. Mohamed Kabbaj held talks with both the first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Trade, the first deputy minister of energy and electricity, and the first deputy minister of foreign trade. The talks dealt with all aspects of cooperation between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Soviet Union in economic, technical, and scientific fields.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA INTERVIEWS SWAPO OFFICIAL

PM051059 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 87 First Edition p 3

[Interview with South-West African People's Organization Secretary for Foreign Affairs T.-B. Gurirab by APN correspondent V. Bulimov at KRASNAYA ZVEZDA'S REQUEST: "We Believe in Our Victory"; date and place not stated]

[Text] The scale of the Namibian people's struggle for liberation from the colonial rule of the racist RSA [Republic of South Africa] is expanding. The South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) heads this struggle, which is supported and approved by the progressive public of the whole world. At the request of the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial office APN Correspondent V. Bulimov met with T.-B. Gurirab, SWAPO secretary for foreign affairs. Here is what the Namibian people's spokesman said.

Our struggle against the occupation regime of the RSA and for Namibia's freedom and independence is growing with every passing day on the diplomatic and military fronts. We are continuing to develop actions whose implementation began last year at the United Nations and the international forums held in various countries, focusing attention on the fact that the Namibian question is urgent and autonomous. Our demand is for the immediate granting of independence to Namibia without any strings.

I recently took part in a Security Council session which discussed yet again the question of introducing all-embracing mandatory sanctions against the RSA as a means of bringing pressure to bear on the Pretoria regime to make it grant independence to Namibia immediately in accordance with the well-known Security Council Resolution No. 435. But the United Statee and Britain have again vetoed the draft of the relevant resolution. But they cannot impose a veto on the Namibian people's will. We are relying in our struggle on the solidarity of the peace-loving forces of the entire planet.

The U.S. policy of so-called constructive engagement with the racist RSA is continuing. As a result many thousands of people are dying in Southern Africa. We have also learned with alarm that the United States is seeking to acquire military bases in a number of African states, particularly in Zaire, with a view to intensifying the policy of destabilization which it is pursuing in the South African region.

As for Britain, it is worried most of all not by the granting of independence to Namibia and the elimination of apartheid in the RSA but by the fate of the enormous profits which British companies are wringing from these countries. The FRG is pursuing a similar policy in Namibia, financing the puppet "transitional government."

The Western countries have thus markedly toughened their stance on the Namibian question, engaging in inciting the RSA, which is continuing to sabotage a peace settlement. Until an agreement on a ceasefire in Namibia is signed we will build up the armed struggle.

We in SWAPO believe that the armed struggle at the present stage is a very important factor in achieving Namibia's independence. That is why we are using approximately 85 percent of our manpower, financial, and material resources to build up this struggle. Its magnitude can be judged by the fact that in the first 3 months of this year alone the fighters of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) carried out 180 combat operations as a result of which the enemy lost several hundred men killed and wounded and a considerable quantity of the enemy's military equipment was destroyed. [paragraph continues]

For many years we have been compelling the RSA to keep an army of many thousands in Namibia. While formerly we concentrated our military operations in northern Namibia alone, we are now conducting them in the central and southern part of the country. An important result of the PLAN's military operations is that the enemy's morale has been substantially undermined.

Many white people in Namibia are coming to the conclusion that the presence of South African troops in the country and the colonial war which has been continuing for 20 years now are harming the country's economy and having the most adverse effect on the activity of white businessmen. That is way they are beginning to openly advocate the withdrawal of South African troops from the country and are seeking contacts with the SWAPO leadership. We have already had several meetings with them.

We will continue to strive to establish broad contacts with representatives of various strata of the white population inasmuch as we have never viewed the people living in Namibia from racist positions. We state that in a future independent Namibia all citizens of the country will have equal rights and obligations. At the same time we say that white Namibians bear responsibility with us for the country's destiny and we need their support.

The PLAN will build up its strikes against the occupiers until they are completely expelled from the country's territory. And it is futile for Pretoria to make any attempts to impose a puppet "independence" on Namibia with the aid of Western patrons. In response to the enemies' intrigues the people of Namibia will answer by stepping up the struggle on all fronts. All the more so since in their courageous and just struggle they enjoy the support of independent Africa and the world's progressive forces, primarily the USSR and the other socialist countries. We are grateful to them for that.

MALAGASY PARTY DELEGATION VISITS 14-26 APR

PM051616 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] A delegation from the Congress Party for Malagasy Independence [AKFM] headed by A. Ratsifehera, deputy general secretary of the party, was in the Soviet Union 14 through 26 April in accordance with the plan for party ties between the CPSU and the AKFM.

Apart from Moscow, the delegation visited the Lithuanian SSR, had talks at the CPSU Central Committee International Department and the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, and visited industrial and agricultural enterprises, consumer cooperative projects, and scientific institutions. The Malagasy guests showed great interest in party organizations' activity in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, and noted the dynamism and effectiveness of the restructuring that is underway in the Soviet Union.

GHANAIAN DELEGATION BEGINS TALKS IN MOSCOW

LD051203 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- The Soviet Union has followed with sympathy the achievements of the people of Ghana in consolidating the country's political independence and economic self-determination.

This was marked during a talk held today between Grant Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and a delegation of the Provisional National Defense Council of Ghana [PNDC], headed by PNDC member Daniel F. Annan. The delegation is in Moscow on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The guests were acquainted with matters concerning the constitutional structure of the USSR, the work of local organs of power, and the development and further improvement of Soviet legislation. The reciprocal desire for the further development of friendly relations between the USSR and Ghana was stressed.

IZVESTIYA NOTES RESUMPTION OF U.S.-ANGOLAN TALKS

PM301255 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 April 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent F. Konopikhin dispatch: "Angola-United States: Different Positions"]

[Text] Luanda -- Official contacts between Angola and the United States for the purpose of normalizing relations and finding an acceptable solution to southern Africa's problems have been resumed in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville. Dialogue between them was broken off in 1986 over U.S. weapons deliveries to the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorist grouping.

During the meeting between Angolan Interior Minister M.A. Rodrigues and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs C. Crocker, organized with the assistance of Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the OAU and president of Congo, the Angolan side confirmed its readiness to resume dialogue with Washington and promote the settlement of the Namibian question on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution No 435. It envisages, in particular, a halt to military operations, the withdrawal of Pretoria's occupation forces from Namibia, and the holding of free elections in that country under UN observation. Rodrigues noted that Angola is ready to withdraw the Cuban military contingent after the granting of independence to Namibia and on condition that the RSA stops its aggression.

But at a press conference Special Envoy G. Cohen [name as published], a member of the U.S. delegation, repeated Washington's position concerning the "linkage" of the presence of Cuban forces in Angola with the Namibian problem. He stated that their withdrawal is a condition of the country's independence.

Clearly, the notorious "linkage" aims to weaken Angola and the unity of the "frontline" states and to cause a quarrel between the South-West African People's Organization, the legitimate representative of the Namibian people, and Angola. Luanda understands the point of the game started by Washington. "For us a solution to the conflict in southern Africa necessarily means eliminating the apartheid system in the RSA, granting independence to Namibia, and ending the policy of destabilizing the 'frontline' states," Angolan President J.E. dos Santos stated. "Without a solution to the global problems mentioned it would be naive and unrealistic to agree to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola as this question concerns the governments of Cuba and Angola exclusively."

The president pointed out that, despite deep disagreements between Angola and the United States, there are still points of contact which can serve as a good basis for developing dialogue and a peaceful solution to the acute problems of southern Africa. But the Angolan Government does not intend to sacrifice either its own interests, nor its allies' interests.

CUBAN STATE SECURITY ARRESTS 2 'CIA AGENTS'

LD050842 Moscow TASS in English 0723 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Havana May 5 TASS -- Cuba's state security agencies have exposed and arrested CIA agents Gladis Juana Oliva Garcia Hernandez and Nestor Norberto Garcia Hernandez [names as received].

According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Gladis Juana Oliva Garcia Hernandez, who lives in Miami, came to Cuba on many occasions due to permission to such trips issued by the Cuban Government for purely humanistic purposes in order to facilitate relations between Cuban families and their relatives living abroad. During one of her visits she recruited her brother Nestor Norberto Garcia Hernandez who gathered and passed over to the CIA information on Cuba of political, socio-economic and military nature. Both spies will be put on trial.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS BEGIN WITH CUBA

FL292159 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1808 GMT 29 Apr 87

[Text] The 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation that began today in Moscow will study matters of importance for the development of the economic and commercial cooperation between Cuba and the USSR. The Soviet delegation to the meeting is headed by Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The Cuban delegation is headed by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and of the government.

At the meeting, the two delegations will review the positive experiences that have resulted from bilateral commercial relations and will continue to study the possibilities to expand these relations. Likewise, Cuba and the USSR are planning to develop new ways of cooperation, including the creation of joint enterprises so that the economy of the two countries will advance dynamically.

Talks Conclude

FL302027 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1951 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] The 17th meeting of the Soviet-Cuban intergovernmental commission for economic and scientific-technical coperation has concluded in Moscow. Numerous problems related to the development of trade between the two countries were discussed. Much attention was given to the progress of new types of cooperation. An intergovernmental agreement on the basic principles of the creation and operation of joint Soviet-Cuban enterprises in our country was signed.

During the Moscow meeting, measures were outlined to increase the efficiency of exploitation of enterprises built in our country with USSR aid. The progress of the construction of the Cienfuegos nuclear power and the Moa nickel complex were examined. The coordination of state plans between the USSR and Cuba until the year 2000 were also analyzed.

IZVESTIYA, PRAVDA CARRY MAY DAY LINEUP PHOTO

PM051415 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 May 1987 Morning Edition devotes pages 1 and 2 to correspondent reports on the May Day celebrations throughout the Soviet Union. A front-page photograph shows Soviet leaders lined up along the top of the Lenin mausoleum in Moscow in the following order (from left to right): Lizichev, [unidentified figure] Kulikov, Akhromeyev, Sokolov, Razumovskiy, Dobrynin, Yakovlev, Demichev, Chebrikov, Zaykov, Gromyko, Gorbachev, Ryzhkov, Ligachev, Solomentsev, Shevardnadze, Vorotnikov, Aliyev, Yeltsin, Dolgikh, Slyunkov, Talyzin, Biryukova, Medvedev, Lukyanov, Nikonov, Kapitonov.

PRAVDA's front-page photograph of the mausoleum lineup is taken from an oblique angle, meaning some faces are partly obscured by their neighbor's waving hand, but the lineup order looks the same when placed alongside the IZVESTIYA photograph.

GORBACHEV, OTHERS ATTEND PRAVDA ANNIVERSARY

Afanasyev Speaks

LD051736 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- "PRAVDA newspaper actively participates in revitalising the socio-economic life of society," stated Viktor Afanasyev, editor-in-chief of PRAVDA, newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU).

He spoke today at a celebration meeting on the occasion of the Soviet Press Day and the 75th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of PRAVDA. In the presidium of the meeting were Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders.

"Our newspaper, just like the entire Soviet press, is a powerful instrument for developing and deepening democracy," the speaker said.

"The party has launched an uncompromising drive against red tape which is the antipode of democracy and of openness."

"To polish the economic machinery, to establish order everywhere and in everything, to strengthen discipline, to raise the degree of organisation and responsibility, and to assert the Leninist style in work everywhere -- such are the means for eradicating red tape."

"Soviet journalists strive to help the party and the state to use these means more fully. They do much in asserting the principles of social justice everywhere."

"PRAVDA's alliance with the Soviet working class, collective-farm peasantry, and intellectuals is the basis of our work" Viktor Afanasyev emphasised.

"Nowadays PRAVDA in a mass-circulation newspaper intended for all members of the party. Its print run is 11.3 million copies. Its prestige in the country and abroad is high: The newspaper goes to readers in 153 countries. It is translated into local languages in ten countries. Last year the editorial office of the newspaper received 622,000 letters from readers."

"PRAVDA was founded by Vladimir I. Lenin who guided its work and determined its strategy and tactics to the last days of his life. The editorial board undeviatingly follows the Leninist principles and develops them with due regard for the new tasks of domestic and international development."

"Nevertheless," the speaker admitted, "in the new conditions the Soviet press is changing its ways not as quickly as is desired."

"In order to raise the efficiency of the journalistic work, it is essential more actively to draw on readers' letters, and to invite more workers, collective farmers and specialists who stand at the forward edge of the reorganization now under way in this country to participate in investigative tours, reviews, and inspections being organized by newspapers' editorial boards.

TV Cites Yeltsin Speech

LD052215 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 5 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announce-read report over video]

[Text] A festive meeting devoted to press day and the 75th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of the PRAVDA newspaper took place in Moscow today in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. [video, left to right of screen, shows Ligachev, Gorbachev, Yeltsin in front of microphone, Afanasyev, Yakovlev, and other unidentified men in the background; about 30 people on the rostrum altogether]

The participants in the meeting greeted with applause Comrades Gorbachev, Ligachev, Yeltsin, Yakovlev, and Razumovskiy. Also in the presidium are leaders of creative unions, of the mass news media, and chief editors of newspapers and magazines. Foreign guests, participants in the meeting in Moscow of editors of the communist and democratic press, are present.

Comrade Yeltsin opened the festive meeting. He said: The greetings of the party's Central Committe to the PRAVDA newspaper stress that today all of our press is a mighty and sharp weapon of democracy, an instrument of creation, and an exponent of the interests of the Soviet people. Comrade Yeltsin continued: In the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October, it is particularly important to develop the revolutionary traditions of Pravdism [pravdizma]; to unite fighters for restructuring; to awaken the initiative of the working people; and to rouse people to resolute actions, daily persistent work in a new fashion.

Comrade Afanasyev, chairman of the Board of the USSR Union of Journalists, editor in chief of the PRAVDA newspaper, delivered a report.

Speaking at the meeting were: Comrade Shevchenko, electric locomotive driver of the Smolyaninovo locomotive depot of the Far Eastern Railway, holder of the (Ulyanova) prize; Comrade Karpov, first secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Journalists; and Comrade Laptev, editor in chief of the IZVESTIYA newspaper.

Comrade Horeni, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat, editor in chief of the RUDE PRAVO newspaper, congratulated Soviet journalists on the occasion of press day and the 75th anniversary of PRAVDA, on behalf of foreign leaders of the mass news media.

CHEBRIKOV VISITS TAJIK, UZBEK SSR'S 25-30 APR

LD300944 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 30 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the State Security Committee, was present in the Uzbek and Tadjik SSR from 25 to 30 April. He visited the towns of Termez, Pyandzh, and the village of Moskovskiy, as well as detachments and outposts in the Central Asian Border Military District, including those sections of the Soviet-Afghan border where dushman bands made provocative attempts to attack Soviet territory in March and April.

During his visit, Comrade Chebrikov met with the party and economic aktiv of Pyandzh Rayon in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast and talked to leaders of party and local soviet bodies on the border and with border guard servicemen. While visiting the military units, particular attention was given to questions of ensuring the security of the USSR's state borders and enhancing the military skill of Soviet border guards.

On 29 April Comrade Chevrikov made a speech at a conference of the officers of arms of troops in the border district and leaders of the state security bodies of Uzbek, Tajik, and Turkmen SSR's. Participating in the conference was Comrade Makhkamov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee. At the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, a meeting took place between Comrade Chevrikov and members and candidate members of the Central Committee bureau of the Republic's Communist Party. The chairman of the USSR State Security committee laid flowers at the monuments to Vladimir Ilich Lenin in Dushanbe and Termez. Comrade Chebrikov was accompanied on his trips to the border by Comrade Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade Makhkamov, and Army General Matrosov, chief of the USSR Committee for State Security Border Guard troops.

GROMYKO BESTOWS AWARDS ON IZVESTIYA STAFF

LD051339 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented in the Kremlin today orders and medals to a large group of the IZVESTIYA editorial office staff, publishing house and printing works for many years' long fruitful work in Soviet press. Congratulating the award recipients, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko said that journalists have been awarded the high distinctions for successes in work, and for selfless work in the press field. Journalists are representatives of an army in whose hands is a mighty weapon -- the press, Comrade Gromyko continued. The education of millions of people depends on what you write about, and how you write. The party and people direct you to use your pen for the benefit of society, for the benefit of socialism. This is particularly important now when an immense restructuring is taking place in the country under the influence of the 27th CPSU Congress and the plenums of the party Central Committee which followed. Much is currently being said about glasnost. In this regard, I would like to draw attention to one special feature of this trait of restructuring, because glasnost is directly linked to the work of mass media. There is glasnost from the top when activities of our various party and state organs are reported in detail, but there is also glasnost from the bottom and it creates a businesslike atmosphere in a team which is always necessary to obtain high quality and quality labor indexes. Journalists have no small responsibility for what has been, is, and will be in our society.

They are working among people; they have to know and express what people feel, what they think about. At the same time, it is the duty of journalists to do everything possible for the party word to become a common matter for all people. Restructuring does not exclude anyone, and you, representatives of the press, have to be its vanguard together with the party.

Comrade Gromyko concluded by congratulating the journalists on awards of these distinctions on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers.

On behalf of the award recipients, Comrade (?Yefimov), first deputy editor-in-chief of IZVESTIYA and Comrade (?Nevelskiy) the paper's special correspondent in Leningrad, thanked the party and government for the high distinctions. [Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 5 May in a similar report includes Comrade Demichev among those attending the presentation]

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES FOREIGN MINISTRY COLLEGIUM

LD041828 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] An expanded session of the collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry and its party committee, with participation of a party aktiv, was held on 3-4 May. A report was delivered by Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister. The discussion pointed to concrete directions and practical steps for further improving all the work done by the diplomatic service. Comrade Chervonenko, head of a CPSU Central Committee department, took part in the work of the session.

VOROTNIKOV CHAIRS RSFSR SESSION ON ISPOLKOMS

PM291037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by unnamed special correspondent: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] A routine session of the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has been held and has heard a report from the Vladimir Oblispolkom on its work in restructuring the activity of the settlement and rural soviet ispolkoms in the light of the demands of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

The Presidium also discussed questions of the development of cooperative forms of organizing public catering, consumer services for the population, and the production of consumer goods. There was an examination of measures to improve the work of the kolkhoz markets and to increase purchases of agricultural produce from the population by the consumer cooperative organizations.

V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, chaired the session.

DEMICHEV SPEAKS AT SESSION ON CHILDREN'S FILMS

OW301349 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 30 Apr 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A joint session of the Public Education and Culture Commissions of the Chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet has discussed problems of developing cinematography for children.

[Begin video recording showing R.A. Bykov, cinema producer, addressing meeting from rostrum; shots of participants show Demichev, Voss present]

[Bykov] Since I have been working with children's films there have been two CPSU Central Committee resolutions on the need to upgrade children's films. They were adopted in 1971 and 1981.

Both of these resolutions -- and there is a document here of the USSR Supreme Soviet to this effect -- have not been fulfilled at all, 100 percent. The activity of workers must be raised. The talented must be separated from the mediocre through a process of natural selection.

This is why the Cinematographers Union has developed a special program, a program for cinema for children and youth under new conditions, conditions of financial autonomy, cost recovery, and independence. [Video cuts to show Demichev speaking to the gathering while seated at the conference table]

[Demichev] Rolan Antonovich [Bykov] has introduced three very important proposals. The first proposal is that a Children's Cinema Association be formed; and the second, that the Yalta Studio be turned into the main material base for production of children's films. The third issue concerns the financial separation of children's and adult films. [Video shows Goskino USSR Chairman Kamshalov at the rostrum] What is your position?

[Kamshalov] I support the proposal on the establishment of a Children's Cinema Association, and I spoke about this at the plenum of the USSR Union of Cinema Workers. As far as Yalta is concerned, today an affiliate of the Gorkiy Studio and the USSR Goskino are discussing the prospects for establishing the so-called southern base of Soviet cinematography. It would probably be correct if we managed to reorient this southern base primarily towards the creation of films for children and youth. I think that this question will be handled correctly.

As far as the financial separation is concerned, we support the establishment of an All-Union Soyuzdetyunfilm [Union Children's and Youth Films] Association with independent financing, with the proviso of course that additional sums of money be allocated for its establishment. [Video shows K.Yu. Lavrov, merited artist of the USSR and well-known film personality, at the rostrum]

[Lavrov] The fact that restructuring must occur concretely and without delay in the system of children's cinema is quite obvious and unequivocal to me. That is why we are changing various organizational and financial principles concerning our art -- children's films in this case -- because the upbringing of our children is so important and is such a complex problem, such an essential problem, without the solution of which we cannot proceed. We should not be sitting here discussing expenditures and difficulties; we should struggle against inertia and against various ingrained habits.

The fact that the USSR Union of Cinema Workers and Goskino have broached this issue today seems to me to be quite natural, and we should... [changes thought] and the fact that our standing commission is viewing this issue seriously attests to the fact that our state really does show concern for children, not in words but in deeds. [end video recording]

NIKONOV TOURS ROSTOV OBLAST 21-25 APRIL

PM051259 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Visit to Rostov Oblast"]

[Text] V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was in Rostov Oblast 21-25 April. He visited machine building and processing enterprises, a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, scientific research institutions, and agro-industrial associations. During his meetings and talks with workers, kolkhoz members, specialists, and leaders he inquired about the progress in restructuring work and in accelerating scientific and technical progress and labor collectives' social development.

During the visit to the Yu.V. andropov "Rostselmash" Production Association main attention was devoted to questions of retooling production, increasing output of "Don" combines, and improving their quality and reliability. The need to expand production of appliances for use with the combine for harvesting various types of agricultural crops was particularly stressed.

At the Azov Baby Food Association discussion focused on the rapid completion of the construction of the canned foods plant, the assimilation of already commissioned production capacities, and the expansion of the range and further improvement of the quality of output. It was noted that the association is not yet making full use of all the potential for establishing close links with suppliers of vegetable, fruit, and berry products. A serious conversation on the extensive introduction of waste-free technology was held with leaders and specialists at the Novocherkassk Dairy Plant. The importance of disseminating at all dairy industry enterprises the experience accumulated here of the thorough processing of raw materials and the production of high-quality catering products was stressed.

V.P. Nikonov met with leaders of the Salsk Rayon Agro-Industrial Association. The council at this agro-industrial association has amassed definite experience in efficiently managing agricultural production on the basis of economic methods, in-depth analysis of the economic activity of enterprises and organizations, and the granting of complete autonomy to kolkhoz chairmen and sovkhoz directors in solving important questions. It was noted in the talks that the process of democratizing management has still by no means been exhausted. It must be expanded and deepened. The questions of collaboration with enterprises and organizations serving agriculture have not yet been adequately resolved. During a visit to the Salsk Rayon Agricultural Association store, through which farms sell part of their above-plan output, the acute need to make fuller use of this opportunity for improving food supplies to the population was stressed.

At the "20th Party Congress" and "Order of Lenin" Kolkhozes in Orlovskiy Rayon, the Lenin Kolkhoz in Zernogradskiy Rayon, the "Michurinskiy" and "Kagalnitskiy" Sovkhozes, the "Aksay" Agricultural Combine, and the "Oktyabrskiy" Sovkhoz Technical College, V.P. Nikonov inquired about the practice of introducing the team contract and economic accountability, and about the transition to self-capitalization and self-financing. [paragraph continues]

Questions linked with the speedy completion of field work under the complex conditions of a protracted spring and the provision of a sound basis for obtaining high yields and unconditionally fulfilling the plans and pledges for the sale of agricultural products to the state were comprehensively discussed.

The problems of closely linking science and production were discussed during meetings with specialists and scientists at the Don Oilseed Crops Experimental Station named for L.A. Zhdanov, the All-Russian Agricultural Mechanization and Electrification scientific Research and Technological Planning Institute, and the "Don" Scientific Production Association. Criticism was expressed regarding scientists' continuing detachment from solving urgent tasks of agricultural production.

In talks with workers, kolkhoz members, and inhabitants of cities and villages in Rostov Oblast, Nikonov inquired about housing and highway construction, medical and trade services to the population, and the organization of working people's lives and leisure. Attention was devoted to fulfilling social development plans more vigorously.

V.P. Nikonov participated in a conference of the party and economic aktiv of the oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics of the North Caucasus, at which current problems in developing the agro-industrial complex were discussed.

Wreaths were laid at the V.I. Lenin Monument in the oblast center. V.P. Nikonov was accompanied on his tour of the oblast by V.M. Volodin, first secretary of Rostov CPSU Obkom, and N.D. Pivovarov, chairman of Rostov Oblispolkom.

LUKYANOV ATTENDS MEETING OF VETERANS COUNCIL

PM291417 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Veterans' Tasks"]

[Text] War and labor veterans are the party's loyal helpers in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and make a worthy contribution to the communist education of young people and to strengthening the homeland's economic and defense might. This was stated at a combined plenum of the All-Union and All-Russian War and Labor Veterans Councils and the Soviet War Veterans Committee, held in Moscow 23 April. It discussed the tasks of the All-Union War and Labor Veterans Organization in realizing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

In the presidium were A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; N.I. Savinkin, chief of a CPSU Central Committee Department; A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; leaders of ministries and departments, and military leaders.

The report by K.T. Mazurov, chairman of the All-Union War and Labor Veterans Council, and the speeches emphasized that the veteran public must convincingly reveal the organic link between the October Revolution and the present revolutionary transformations in Soviet society. It is necessary to continue propagandizing and explaining the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy and its initiatives in the struggle for nuclear disarmament and for peace and the peoples' security and to educate the young generation of Soviet people in the spirit of devotion to communist ideals and to the Leninist party's revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions and constant readiness to defend the socialist motherland.

YELTSIN CHAIRS MOSCOW SUBWAY SYSTEM MEETING

PM301509 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "At Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Excerpts] A conference was held yesterday at Moscow CPSU Gorkom with the participation of the leaders of ministries, departments, and Moscow Gorispolkom to examine the question of progress in implementing additional measures to develop the Moscow subway and the Moscow rail network in the 12th 5-Year Plan to improve transportation in Moscow City with a view to ensuring the construction of 45 km of new subway line -- twice as much as in the previous 5-year plan -- the modernization of 109 km of existing lines, and the construction of additional exits at the "VDNKH," "Baumanskaya," and "Belorusskaya" Circle Line stations, and to draw up plans for the subway's development in the 13th 5-Year Plan and through the year 2000. [passage omitted]

S.A. Afanasyev, minister of heavy and transport machine building, V.A. Brezhnev, minister of transport construction, and N.S. Konarev, minister of railways, participated in the conference's work.

The conference was chaired by B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

PAPER NOTES YELTSIN MEETING WITH MOSCOW BROADCASTERS

PM291027 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Being an Effective Instrument of Openness"]

[Text] A meeting between B.N. Yeltsin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and the collective of the Main Editorial Office for Television and Radio Programs for Moscow [Mosteleradio] took place at the Ostankino Television Center yesterday.

B.N. Yeltsin toured editorial office sections, studios, and control rooms and was briefed on the work of journalists, directors, and television equipment specialists. During the comradely conversation he told those assembled about the main avenues of the city party organization's activity, the course and problems of restructuring in the capital's economy, municipal services, and social and spiritual life, and the results of Muscovites' labor in the current year's first quarter.

Particular attention was given to the tasks facing the Mosteleradio collective. It was noted that editorial office journalists are noticeably restructuring their work. While the Central Television's Moscow Program and the programs of the city's radio network were sharply criticized early last year at the 26th city party conference, now it is possible to speak of initial successes, B.N. Yeltsin noted. The replacement of the two former editorial offices by a single Main Editorial Office for Television and Radio Programs for Moscow has proved to be correct. Muscovites still remember the television programs "Here Is the Diploma: What Next?" and "Such Changeable Fashions." There is also interest in the program "Dialogue," which provides answers to many questions perturbing the capital's television viewers. The traditional patriotic program "Victors," freed from academic overtones, has a new and more lively look.

Restructuring has begun in the programs of the city's radio network. This can be seen in the programs "Moscow and Muscovites," which now contain sharp and lively coverage, reports, and features devoted to problems of restructuring at industrial enterprises, transportation, construction industry, municipal services, and social problems.

Many of the programs made by Mosteleradio journalists are distinguished by high professionalism, creative approach, sharpness and veracity of tone.

This proves that the editorial office collective is on the right path and has great creative potential. The point is to fully reveal this potential and ensure that every program beamed into the airwaves has its own image and becomes an event. Screen presentations by the Moscow Television Program and broadcasts by the city's radio network must become real tribunes of restructuring and effective instruments of openness.

But, B.N. Yeltsin noted, Mosteleradio must more swiftly and more fruitfully restructure its work. The program "Good Evening, Moscow!", which is becoming increasingly popular, is billed as a news and current affairs program. But it is still short on current affairs coverage and interpretation of the socioeconomic processes occurring in the city. The journalists with radio microphones or in front of television cameras must be able to discover interlocutors among people who lead interesting lives, have rich experience, and have something to say to Muscovites.

The party topic still has not found a proper place in radio and television programs. Programs rarely contain materials that profoundly and vividly display the work experience of party organizations and the vanguard role of communists in the renewal of the city's life.

There must be a deeper and more systematic approach to coverage of the progress of restructuring in the city's industry and of the economic, social, and psychological problems created by the introduction of state acceptance and the transition to self-capitalization. We still have not seen or heard proper programs about the two- and three-shift work in enterprises. It is necessary to avoid portraying just the external forms of restructuring and to reveal its essence. Radio and television programs also suffer from vagueness and from the effect of programming imbalances and sloppiness of language and style. Now that preparations are under way for the local soviet elections, it is necessary to skillfully show everything new that has come out of the process of democratization, the voters' mood, their attitudes to the nominated candidate deputies, and the atmosphere in which voters' meetings are held.

Emphasis was placed on the need to systematically monitor progress in the fulfillment of socialist pledges given by the city's labor collectives and rayons.

It is particularly important to ensure the effectiveness of every statement. It is incumbent on the editorial office to persistently aim for efficient and businesslike responses to critical material. The party gorkom will assess without prejudice any attempts to suppress or ignore fair criticism.

But journalists are also responsible for the veracity of their reports, the thorough verification of assessments, and every word they speak on the air. The demands made of party cadres fully apply also to them: competence, a sense of innovation, boldness in raising acute questions, initiative, and the ability to finish any job they start.

There are still some party and soviet officials and economic leaders who fear an open discussion on the television screen or at the radio microphone. Essentially, they avoid discussing their work and the tasks they are charged with resolving. They make references to the need to obtain various approvals. But this covers their unpreparedness to live and work in a situation of democracy, in an atmosphere of openness.

We would also like to hear programs containing sharp and heated discussions on problems of the capital's life.

While approaching Great October's 70th anniversary, it is particularly important to show more of our real achievements, those flashes of positive experience in restructuring which it is so necessary to disseminate. We are not, of course, talking about striking some sort of balance between "positives" and criticism. We are talking about the daily need to show people that life produces much that is useful, new and works for acceleration.

We do not need ostentation, we have given up farfetched "exemplariness." But we should not allow any dilution of Muscovites' love for their city. On the contrary, this love must be strengthened by all means, while propagandizing respect for our historical past and genuine striving to augment the gains of socialism.

In September Muscovites will be celebrating their city's day. Preparations for it ought to start right away, and order must be brought to streets, yards, and microrayons. This is an important topic for creative work by television and radio journalists, who must cultivate Muscovites' genuine rather than ostentatious concern for their beloved capital.

The conversation with journalists proceeded in an atmosphere of frankness and trust. B.N. Yeltsin replied to numerous questions from those present.

Taking part in the meeting were A.N. Aksenov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; Yu.S. Karabasov, secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom; and senior party gorkom officials.

TRADE, CONSUMER SERVICES CHIEFS ATTEND STUDY CLASSES

PM041123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Apr 87 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Cadre Studies"]

[Text] Courses for chiefs of the trade and consumer services departments of union republic Communist Party Central Committees and party kraykoms and obkoms have ended at the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy Institute for Raising the Qualifications of Leading Party, Soviet, and Ideological Cadres.

In the course of the studies urgent questions of Marxist-Leninist theory and CPSU policy, of increasing party influence on the development of trade and the services sphere, and of restructuring the work of these sectors in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum decisions were studied and comprehensively discussed.

Great attention was devoted to questions of improving planning and management and organizing the work of trade and consumer services enterprises under the new conditions of economic management. [paragraph continues]

Ways to further develop retail commodity turnover and paid services, to raise the standard of services, to satisfy more fully the population's demand for diverse goods and services, and to make all possible use of local potential and reserves for this were examined. Questions of enhancing the role and responsibility of the trade and consumer services departments of party committees in resolving these tasks were discussed.

Directions for improving the work of party organizations of trade and consumer services enterprises, restructuring their political, educational, and organizational activity in labor collectives, deepening democratization, extending openness, developing criticism and self-criticism, and strengthening labor discipline were examined during the courses.

Questions of improving cadre policy, reinforcing trade, public catering, and consumer service enterprises with highly skilled and competent leaders, strengthening party control over management activities at enterprises in these sectors, and improving the organization of socialist competition were studied.

The students were addressed by N.N. Slyunkov, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; N.A. Stashenkov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Trade and Consumer Services Department; Ye.I. Sizenko and V.G. Klyuyev, USSR ministers; M.P. Trunov, chairman of the Tsentrosoyuz Board; I.A. Zaramenskiy and V.K. Onisovets, deputy chiefs of the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy; N.A. Bazhenov, N.I. Demidov, Yu.V. Zhukov, P.D. Kondrashov, N.A. Lupey, F.L. Marchuk, Yu.A. Rozov, and A.I. Shitov, USSR deputy ministers, committee deputy chairmen, and leaders of departments; I.G. Dudenkov and V.P. Shimanskiy, RSFSR ministers.

During the studies great attention was devoted to the practice of the activities of local party organs in improving trade and consumer services for the population. Reports on these questions were delivered by Yu.G. Samsonov, first secretary of Ulyanovsk Party Obkom, and V.V. Grigoryev, first secretary of Vitebsk Party Obkom. Also devoted to this were extramural practical sessions in the Lithuanian republic party organization, where the students were addressed by N.A. Mitkin and A.K. Brazauskas, secretaries of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, and by a number of other leading workers of the republic. Experience of organizational work was exchanged in seminar sessions.

During the courses of the students familiarized themselves with the organization of trade and consumer services in Moscow and Moscow Oblast, met with senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus, with leaders of public organizations and progressive trade, public catering, and consumer service enterprises, with leading specialists of ministries and departments, and with scientists and journalists, and visited the USSR National Economic Achievements Exhibition.

NEW AVIATION MINISTER VOLKOV REPLACES BUGAYEV

LD041623 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1600 GMT 4 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 4 May (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Aleksandr Volkov the USSR minister of civil aviation.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Boris Bugayev from the duties of USSR minister of civil aviation in connection with his transfer to other work.

Colonel-General of Aviation Aleksandr Volkov was born in 1929, is a Russian and a member of the CPSU.

In 1951 he completed studies at the military aviation college of pilots and went through summer service in units of the country's air force. After finishing at the military air academy and the military academy of general staff he was on command duty in the air force; he commanded military-transport aviation for 7 years; from 1986 he was deputy chief of the air force.

V.V. NAYDENOV APPOINTED CHIEF STATE ARBITER

PM011011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[USSR Supreme Soviet Decree "On the Appointment of Comrade V.V. Naydenov as USSR Chief State Arbiter"]

[Text] Moscow, Kremlin, 27 March -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Viktor Vasilyevich Naydenov as USSR chief state arbiter.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

PRESIDIUM REPLACES KAZAKH GEOLOGY MINISTER

LD140900 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 1400 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed the appointment of Comrade Ksilefonov, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, as minister of geology of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade Chakabayev from his duties as Kazakh SSR Geology Minister in connection with his retirement on pension.

YOUTH ORGANIZATION ELECTS CHELNAKOV CHAIRMAN

LD112245 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, 1 April (TASS) -- Sergey Chelnakov, 33, was elected today as chairman of the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations [CYO] at a plenum of this Soviet public organization.

Prior to this he had been the representative of Soviet Youth Organizations in the International Union of Students, and afterward worked as first deputy chairman of the USSR CYO.

The USSR CYO brings together USSR youth and student organizations and the youth sections of the creative unions. At present the committee maintains contacts with more than 2,000 youth and student unions and movements in 150 countries.

UKRAINE PRICES COMMITTEE HEAD RETIRES

AU210942 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 Apr 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade V.K. Shamborskiy of the duties of chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee on Prices in connection with his retirement on pension.

PRAVDA UKRAINY CARRIES YELCHENKO BIOSKETCH

AU041322 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 26 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Yuriy Nikiforovich Yelchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary"]

[Text] Born in 1929, Yu. N. Yelchenko is a Ukrainian and has been a member of the CPSU since 1953. He graduated from the Kiev Polytechnical Institute in 1952 and is an engineer-mechanic.

He began his career as a foreman at a machine building plant. Since 1953, he has performed Komsomol, party, and state work. He was Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee first secretary for 8 years, an inspector in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and Lvov Obkom second secretary. In 1971, he was appointed Ukrainian minister of culture, and from 1973 to 1980 was Propaganda and Agitation Department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. From January 1980, he was Kiev Gorkom first secretary.

Yu. N. Yelchenko is a CPSU Central Committee member and a USSR Supreme Soviet deputy.

FORMER BUKHARA OBKOM SECRETARY ON TRIAL

PM221705 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Supreme Court"]

[Text] A.K. Karimov, former first secretary of Bukhara Party Obkom, is being prosecuted on a charge of bribe-taking. The trial is chaired by USSR Supreme Court Member N.P. Arestovich.

The state's prosecutor is Ye.I. Morgachev, senior assistant general prosecutor of the USSR.

MOSCOW GORKOM PLENUM SCHEDULED FOR 30 MAY

PM211509 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Text] The Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau has resolved to convene a regular plenum of the Moscow Party Gorkom on 30 May 1987, with the following agenda:

"Account by members of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau Comrade I.D. Pisarev, secretary of the party gorkom, and Comrade V.P. Shcherbakov, chairman of the Moscow City Trade Union Council, on their personal contribution to the implementation of decisions made by the 26th Conference of the Moscow City CPSU Organization."

'REFUSNIKS' STAGE 'SHOW' IN MOSCOW 26 APRIL

LD272043 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 27 TASS -- Commenting on a show staged by "refusniks" (people who have on legitimate grounds been temporarily denied visas to leave the USSR) in Tverskoy Boulevard in downtown Moscow Sunday morning, the evening newspaper VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA said today it had resembled a "well-rehearsed play".

"The most curious thing was the simultaneity of movements, which had been practiced to automatism and could otherwise only be seen at synchronized swimming competitions," the paper remarked.

"The participants in the show lined up and then, all at the same time, they unfurled streamers saying "Let Us Go to Israel" in Russian and in English, which was perhaps a courtesy for those among the guests invited in advance who do not know Russian," it added ironically.

But despite its well-preparedness which could be seen even with the naked eye, the show was not a complete success," the article said, explaining that "Muscovites were angered at the spectacle and openly voiced their attitude to it, to the false sufferers and to their foreign advocates."

The paper said many of those foreign advocates had diplomatic passports and worked at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

"Together with foreign correspondents greedy for cheap sensations, some of them have mounted such a flurry of activity that one is prompted to think that the U.S. Government has sent them to the USSR to do nothing but stick up for 'refusniks' as, judging by how busy they are, they must have no time left for any other work," VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA continued.

It mentioned Earl Irving, second secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, first secretary John Ordway and another first secretary Michael Eyenick who together with his wife Sarra Eyenick hold the door to their apartment wide open to "refusniks".

But the top place among those busy pursuing what were far from diplomatic activities was occupied by Kathleen Kavalek whose husband worked at the culture and press department of the U.S. Embassy and who called herself a worker for human rights in the USSR, the article said.

"Madam Kavalek readily took upon herself those bothersome duties late last year after the embassy's second secretary Michael Matera was expelled from the Soviet Union for activities incompatible with diplomatic ones.

"Together with attache Robert Sokota, chief of the literature purchase section acting either as her bodyguard or as her chauffeur, Kathleen Kavalek has for several months now been having daily, if not hourly, meetings with 'refuseniks' and gathering all kind of false information to be blown out of all proportion and used as a hindrance to developing relations between the USSR and the United States," VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA said.

"Kathleen Kavalek and some of her compatriots have assumed the 'ill will mission' not at all in the name of peace and mutual understanding," it concluded.

TASS CALLS DEMONSTRATORS 'ACTORS' IN 'TROUPE'

LD260925 Moscow TASS in English 0921 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 26 TASS -- Another "show" involving persons of Jewish nationality who were denied permission to leave the U.S.S.R. in keeping with the pertinent Soviet legislation was held in Tverskoy Boulevard in downtown Moscow today.

The act was pre-planned and directed. It is plain from the fact that as soon as the "actors" began to gather accredited Western correspondents appeared with an amazing speed and accuracy. Incidentally the number of the correspondents was bigger than that of the "troupe" consisting of about 17 people.

The reporters were well-equipped -- movie, photo and video cameras operated at full load. The "demonstrators" spoke at length about their "nostalgia for the 'promised land'".

However, when reporters asked why did they come to Tverskoy Boulevard in the first place, the answer was: "They say it will be better for us there."

No one, however, could answer in which respect "better".

Later one of the participants in the show warmed up to his topic: "I have no intention of guessing at the future. If I don't like it there I will ask for permission to return. Why did I come here? Well, I was invited and so I'm here."

And that's all. The group enthusiastically posed before the cameras of Western reporters, trying on a "martyr's crown of thorns".

True, one father tried to make his baby "who is being deprived in the U.S.S.R. of his homeland" cry. The baby, though, was clearly more interested in sparrows.

And many of the passers-by indignantly demanded an end to the farce.

AFP CITES RECENT RELEASE OF DISSIDENTS

Tenghiz Gudava

AU271333 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 27 (AFP) -- Soviet dissident Tengiz Gudava announced his release Monday from a Soviet jail, after a 36-day hunger strike to protest his brother's detention.

Mr. Gudava told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Soviet authorities promised to free, later this week, his brother Edward Gudava, who is observing a hunger strike at a labour camp in Tsulukidze, Georgia.

He spoke on the telephone from his home town of Tbilisi, the capital of the Republic of Georgia. He had been observing a hunger strike since March 23.

Mr. Gudava, a member of a Georgian group which monitors the Helsinki accords, was arrested in June 1985 and charged with "disturbance and anti-Soviet propaganda". He was sentenced to seven years' prison and a subsequent three years of internal exile.

His brother was sent to jail in January 1986 for four years on charges of "hooliganism" for having displayed placards demanding his brother's liberation.

The Gudava brothers, their mother, Raisa Uvarova, and Tengiz Gudava's wife, Marina, belong to a group of Soviet Jews who have been asking for 12 years to emigrate to Israel.

Tengiz Gudava criticised Soviet authorities for failing to respect human rights and said that the recent release of dissidents from labour camps was only a "political facade".

He said his past activities were not "subversive" and that he refused to repent.

Edward Gudava

NC011237 Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 1 (AFP) -- Imprisoned dissident Georgian Jew Edward Gudava was pardoned and released Thursday following a decree from the Georgian parliament, he said Friday. He said authorities had told him he would be able to leave the Soviet Union with his family.

The dissident, who was sentenced to four years' jail in January 1986, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by telephone from Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, that he had never asked to be pardoned.

Mr. Gudava, his mother and his brother, Tengiz Gudava, have been waiting for 12 years for a visa to emigrate to Israel. Mr. Gudava said he had been on a hunger strike for almost a month at the Tsulukidze Camp where he had been serving his sentence, and only stopped after hearing of his brother's release from prison last Monday.

Tengiz Gudava had been serving a sentence of seven years prison camp and three years internal exile following his conviction in 1986 on charges of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.

Rise in Releases

AU011429 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 1 May 87

[Text] Geneva, May 1 (AFP) -- The number of Soviet Jews allowed to emigrate to the West rose sharply last month.

Figures published here on Friday by the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) indicate that 717 Jews arrived in Vienna, of whom 168 (23 percent) wanted to settle in Israel. Others will live in the United States, Canada, Australia, and Italy.

The number of Jewish emigrants was 470 in March, when it reached its highest point in almost six years.

(These figures were confirmed by the Jewish Agency, which is responsible for Jews abroad, in Jerusalem, which said that 1,331 Jews have left the Soviet Union since January, about 500 more than in all of 1986. Of these 367 chose to live in Israel. The Israeli Government is pushing for direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv to have more Jews settle in Israel. This move has so far been unsuccessful, and all Soviet Jews must go to Vienna before settling in other countries.)

Georgian Rights Group Member

AU021611 Paris AFP in English 1606 GMT 2 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 2 (AFP) -- Merab Kostava, a member of the Georgian branch of the Helsinki human rights monitoring group, was freed Thursday after 10 years' detention in Siberia, friends of the dissident said Saturday from the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

In a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, the sources said that the 47-year old musicologist had been released on the eve of May 1, a national Soviet holiday, from the Georgian prison of Ksanyi where he had spent the last month after being treated for tuberculosis in hospital in Tashkent, Soviet Central Asia.

Mr. Kostava was the third member of the Georgian branch of the Helsinki monitoring group to be freed in less than a week. On Monday, Tengiz Gudava was released after being detained in 1985 and sentenced one year later to seven years in labour camp followed by internal exile for "propaganda and anti-Soviet agitation". His brother Eduard was released Thursday from labour camp where he had served one year of a four-year sentence.

Mr. Kostava was sentenced in 1977, the year the Georgian monitoring group was set up in the same way as in Moscow and other Soviet republics, to 10 years' labour camp in Perm for "anti-Soviet agitation" and attacking a policeman. His sentence was extended for five more years in 1981 and for the same period again in June 1985. Eduard Gudava told AFP later in a telephone call from Tbilisi that the musicologist was now at home resting in the capital of the southern republic on the Black Sea, and that his condition was "satisfactory". Before his release, Mr. Kostava had refused to sign a KGB secret police form, but had instead written that he had never engaged in "anti-social activities", according to Mr. Gudava.

STATE ACCEPTANCE HAS IMPACT ON PRODUCT QUALITY

PM051915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Apr 87 Second Edition p 1

[Yuriy Medvedev article under the rubric "Frank Discussion": "Skill in Your Hands"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] I once asked a worker who was highly skilled in his job: "Have you really never produced shoddy work throughout your long life?" "I once did, when I was young," he smiled. "I drilled a hole slightly larger than it should have been. It upset me. A "mentor" came along, tapped the component with his hammer, and the no-go test gauge wouldn't go into the hole. That meant it was OK. But later the component was sent back from the assembly shop. I could have cried I was so ashamed. I've remembered that lesson all my life. You can cheat, lie, and be underhanded, but you'll be the one to suffer for it."

If only everyone thought like that!

The introduction of state acceptance has shown that a number of enterprises have long been turning a blind eye to violations of techniques, have sometimes been deliberately geared to quantity, and have relied on their "luck." In some places minor defects have become the norm, resulting in major components and entire articles being substandard. Output has been sent back by the state acceptance bodies, people have lost wages and have been indignantly perplexed: What happened? That is the demoralizing effect of complacency, excessive license, and irresponsibility.

The January CPSU Central Committee Plenum stated wholeheartedly that we must not work in this way but must break with old and harmful habits. The time is now ripe for everyone to examine themselves: Am I doing everything to ensure that my personal skills accord with the spirit of the time? Restructuring must be understood, and we must recognize our role -- even if it is only a minor one -- in resolutely transforming the country's life. Has each of us deeply felt the need to sharply improve the quality of all domestic output in order to ensure that it becomes competitive in the international arena? We are capable of ensuring that we do not hunt foreign-made goods in stores or do not wait for foreign-bought equipment to arrive at our shops or construction sites. To this end we must declare war on shoddy workmen and goof-offs and encourage true professionals.

Today, as has always been the case, skilled workers are in the public eye. That is why it is gratifying to read letters thanking the unknown workers who made a refrigerator that has worked for decades without being repaired, a machine tool that is more reliable and accurate than previous models, shoes that never wear out, and many other things that please us with their good quality and beauty. And the name of these unknown workers is: skillful expert.

Our compliments to them.

TRADE OFFICIAL DREMOV DISCUSSES JOINT VENTURES

AU051842 Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German 5 May 87 p 3

[Werner Pirker dispatch from Moscow: "Joint Ventures Are Coming"]

[Text] Although the socialist people's economy is developing according to its own laws, it is not autonomous and outside the international economy.

The internationalization of productive forces is an objective process that cannot be ignored without dire consequences. Over the past few decades the most varied forms of cooperation between the state economy and capitalist enterprises have been developing. The most integrative model is that of joint ventures.

Yuriy Dremov is chief of the technical administration in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade and is responsible for joint ventures, which the USSR is striving to establish in a widespread way. VOLKSSTIMME asked him why one should "make common cause" with the capitalists.

Dremov considers joint ventures to be the logical last link in a chain. They have not developed suddenly but have emerged as a logical consequence from the cooperation between Soviet state enterprises and Western enterprises, he explained. This requires the highest-possible coordination, which can be done only in a certain kind of enterprise.

At the beginning, Yuriy Dremov relates, that is, about 25 years ago, there were licenses and trade with licenses made it possible for partners to equalize the standard of their scientific-technological results and to work with a unified quality standard. The second link in this chain was production cooperation. Since the start, in 1975, about 50 contracts on production cooperation have been concluded to date. But what was missing was a joint administration, says the head of the technical administration in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, justifying the third step that led to joint ventures.

Reservations of Entrepreneurs [subhead]

The fact that "free entrepreneurs" in the West consider the opportunity to export capital to socialism not so much a strategy of subversion, but a very pragmatic issue is proved by the many reservations which are voiced with respect to Soviet invitations to cooperate. Many entrepreneurs do not quite like the thought that joint ventures might enable the Soviet Union to produce goods which are in high demand not only in the USSR but also in the Western countries. Therefore, the Soviet side is often accused of wanting to expand its exports via joint ventures.

This is, indeed, an important concern of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, Dremov says in this connection. But the most essential task is to enable these enterprises to finance their own projects - even in foreign exchange. Therefore, the draft law envisages a coupling between the transfer of the Western partners' profits and the revenue from exports. After the entrepreneurs had understood the principle of self-financing in foreign exchange, "they started to criticize us," Yuriy Dremov says. "They practically wanted us to produce only things that were already out of date on the Western market. Then came the differentiation of our potential partners between those who only wanted to burden us with obsolete products and those who wanted real cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit."

As the Foreign Trade Ministry employee says, the most important thing is the state's planning policy and the Soviet economy's transition to self-financing. If the Western partners accept this they are cordially invited to participate in joint ventures. A contract on joint ventures has already been concluded with an FRG company. Yuriy Dremov did not want to name the company. "It is not Burda," he only said.

In the meantime it has become known that it is the Salamander shoe company. Furthermore, Austria's VOEST Alpine has also started negotiations on joint ventures with Soviet bodies, as Director General Lewinsky told VOLKSSTIMME in an interview in February.

Reservations of the Communists [subhead]

Responding to the question of whether this form of economic cooperation would not introduce an element alien to the structure of socialism, the foreign trade functionary began by saying that he does not work directly at the ideological front. But Yuriy Dremov is by no means an ideological technocrat. "As a communist I am, of course, interested in this question and we all have to face it."

But his standpoint is the following -- The socialist economy cannot develop in isolation. If it tried it would fail. Such a policy of "cooperation with the class enemy" was pursued as early as the 1920's and 1930's based on one of Lenin's decrees.

The so-called concessions made at that time enabled foreign capitalists to settle on Soviet territory with 100-percent capital shares. The enterprises flourished and socialism developed in spite of everything.

Today, on the other hand, Dremov explained, the Soviet Union is determined to retain at least a 51-percent share. In addition, the draft law envisages that Soviet representatives occupy the top positions in the administration; with regard to social benefits Soviet laws are the only applicable ones. Western influence is permitted only with regard to technology. The socialist economy is developing under its own steam, my interview partner is convinced.

But if the economic contacts are to be deepened, one must not avoid joint ventures. As his personal opinion he adds: -- The deeper and more comprehensive the economic cooperation and interlacing, the further away war.

Thus, the social sphere in joint ventures remains firmly in Soviet hands. But what about democracy? Do the Western partners accept the tendencies toward self-management or even the election of a director?

At first Yuriy Dremov cannot avoid a smile, and then he tells us his opinion frankly. It sounds as if he were not an absolute advocate of the election of directors. The collective does not always make the right choice, and a good manager is not always popular among the staff. But no matter what one's opinion is in this respect, he personally thinks that joint-venture enterprises will be the last ones in which full democracy on the job will have an effect.

[Text] The draft law envisages that the director will be a Soviet citizen, but Dremov can theoretically imagine a foreigner in this position if the man adheres to Soviet laws. Of course, trade unions in these enterprises must have all their rights, which means, inter alia, that they conclude a collective agreement with the enterprise's joint administration containing issues of democratization as well.

Are there already any objections on the part of interested foreign companies against democracy? Dremov says that these companies are only interested in the quality of production — and, he adds, in the question of hiring and firing workers. The position of the Soviet side is clear in this respect -- Firing can be only the most extreme form of punishment for poor work discipline.

Be that as it may, joint ventures are in no way the essence of the Soviet economic reform. This consists in raising labor productivity by actively integrating all working people and by radically expanding democracy in enterprises and in society.

MEDIA COVERS AGRICULTURAL WORK FOR 3 MAY

LD060254 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 3 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

3 May

In Kulunda and other steppe zones of Altay Kray, machine operators are carrying out autumn harrowing; they are also carrying out the top dressing of winter crops and perennial grasses. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are to sow grain crops on 5 million hectares. (0000)

The sovkhozes and kolkhozes of the southern areas in Smolensk Oblast have started the sowing of oats and lupin. The machine operators of Kizlyaskiy Rayon intend to harvest 35 quintals of rice per hectare. (0104)

Sowing has started in all the rayons of Volgograd Oblast. Over 3 million hectares will be sown with early spring crops. (0204)

Rice sowing has begun in the southern Ukraine, with the Crimea taking about 19,000 hectares. The oblast sold over 100,000 tonnes of rice to the state last year and its rice-growers are expecting a similar yield this year. Rice has been the main crop for many collective farms in the region since the construction of the Northern Crimean Canal brought water from the Dnepr to this previously infertile area. (0800)

Spring sowing is late "practically everywhere." By 1 May, 2-2 1/2 times less sowing had been completed than at the same time in 1986. Early grain crop sowing has ended in Brest Oblast. The Ukraine has a spring crop area of over 20 million hectares. (0815)

Since the beginning of the year the state has procured 10 percent more livestock and poultry than during the same period last year. This extra 10 percent represents about 600,000 tonnes of liveweight meat. All the union republics except Estonia have increased production. Milk production in the country as a whole has risen by 8 percent or 1.25 million tonnes. All union republics boosted milk output, apart from Tajikistan. In the Russian Federation, the most striking results were obtained by livestock farmers in Tataria, Buryatia, and the Maritime and Khabarovsk Krays, as well as the Amur, Orenburg, and several other oblasts. There was also some lagging behind. (0100)

The grain growers of Chita Oblast are ready to take sowing equipment into the fields, but the start of work is being delayed by the lack of spring warmth. The area under cultivation with grain crops using intensive technology now will be doubled. (1100)

Lipetsk Oblast farms have commenced the sowing of rape. (1100)

Machine operators in Dneprepetrovsk Oblast have completed the sowing of early grain crops. Wide-swathe three-seed-drill units were used. Mineral fertilizers and herbicides were used as required. Work went on through the night. Sunflowers and sugar beets are being sown now. (1300)

Mass sowing was begun on farms in Gorkiy Oblast today. The spring wheat fields here exceed 1 million hectares. (1700)

UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST CONDUCTED 6 MAY

LD060617 Moscow TASS in English 0615 GMT 06 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- An underground nuclear explosion with an yield of under 20 kilotons was conducted at the testing range in the area of Semipalatinsk in the Soviet Union at 8 hours 05 minutes Moscow time today.

The test was staged to check the findings of research into the physics of a nuclear blast.

COSMOS-1843 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 5 MAY

LD051445 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Moscow 5 May (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1843, was launched today in the Soviet Union to continue space research. The satellite has been placed in orbit with the parameters: initial period of revolution, 89.5 minutes; apogee, 312 km; perigee, 214 km; orbital inclination, 70.4 degrees. The apparatus on board the satellite is working normally.

FAR EAST WEATHER SHIP LEAVES VLADIVOSTOK

OW041313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 4 May 87

[From the Vremya newscast; L. Savitskiy video report]

[Text] The scientific ship Akademik Korolev, flagship of the Far Eastern hydrometeorological service, has left Vladivostok on a distant voyage.

[Savitskiy] Possibly never before has such a large and representative expedition gone to sea on this ship. Five institutes have sent their scientists out on this voyage. They have also sent equipment that is often unique and one-of-a-kind. [Video shows the Akademik Korolev putting out to sea, pans the decks and antenna arrays, and shows technicians at equipment consoles] For a period of 4 months the scientists on board the ship will take observations in the Pacific and Indian Oceans studying the effects of environmental pollution on the planet's climate. [Video shows Savitskiy interviewing V.N. Kapustin, candidate of physicomathematical sciences, on deck]

[Kapustin] As you know the majority of the world's population is concentrated in the Northern hemisphere and because of this, as earlier measurements have shown, the Northern hemisphere is considerably more polluted than the Southern hemisphere.

Insofar as the solution of this problem is a problem for all mankind, this experiment will be conducted not only by Soviet scientists, but in cooperation with U.S. scientists. We have a lot of interesting and unique equipment that will permit us to measure concentrations of various gases and particles in the atmosphere. We hope that joint measurements of this kind will be successful and useful and will be used in the future as a starting point for solving the problem of climatic changes. It is essential to know how the activities of man can influence such climatic changes in the future. This is a most important task.